



# Vigo Primary School

*Opening a World of Learning and Opportunity*

A: Vigo Primary School, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1JZ

T: 01264 365166

E: adminoffice@vigo.hants.sch.uk

W: www.vigo.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs R Dance

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Reid

SENCO: Mrs S Wright

## Welcome to the Autumn Term in Year R

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Vigo Primary School and to Year R!

We have had a lovely start to the term and it has been wonderful to welcome the children into our school community. The children have been busy getting used to our school routines, exploring their new learning environments and getting to know their new classmates and teachers. They have made a fantastic start, and we are looking forward to seeing their confidence grow as they settle into school life. We have lots of exciting learning planned for the term and cannot wait to get started. Please take a look at the curriculum overview that has been sent home with this letter for more information about what we will be learning this term.

### The start and end of the day

Our school day starts at 8.35am and ends at 3.15pm.

Please bear with us at home time, as we need to release children one at a time as we see their parents and carers. This may take a little time while we get to know everyone's faces.

Please make sure that all adults who may collect your child are named on the collection list. If you wish to add someone to the list, please speak to a member of the office team.

### What to bring to school

All children should have a named water bottle in school every day. The children will be encouraged to take responsibility for their water bottles and will be able to fill and refresh them throughout the day. Water bottles will be sent home regularly to be washed.

Children should not bring pencil cases, toys, notebooks or other items from home, as these can become lost or distract from their learning.

### PE days

Year R PE will take place every Tuesday.

Please ensure that on PE days your child wears:

- Trainers
- Black shorts or black jogging bottoms
- White T-shirt
- A plain black hoodie or school jumper in colder weather

Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named.

### Forest School

In Year R, the classes will rotate their Forest School sessions on a Tuesday.

For Forest School, children will need to wear long sleeves and trousers and have appropriate footwear, such as boots or wellies.

As the children will have PE and Forest School on the same day, please send your child to school in their PE clothes, with their Forest School clothes and shoes in a named bag.





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Please provide suitable spare clothing, as the children may get wet or muddy during their Forest School activities!

## **Healthy snacks and lunchboxes**

Children are provided with a daily snack in school.

For those bringing a packed lunch from home, please ensure that there is a healthy balance of food and a separate drink. All food sent into school must be nut-free.

We find that children are more able to concentrate on their learning when they have a healthy diet and are well hydrated throughout the day. Please therefore do not send your child to school with sweets or fizzy drinks in their lunchbox.

Some ideas for healthy lunchboxes can be found on the NHS website.

## **Reading**

We encourage children to read every day with an adult at home. We recommend around 10–15 minutes, followed by a short chat about what you have read together.

Please record your child's reading in their reading log.

As we progress with our phonics teaching at school, children will begin to bring home a phonics reading book. Remember, any reading counts! If you have shared a story or looked at a book together at home, this can be recorded in your child's reading log.

## **How you can help your child in Year R**

There are lots of simple ways you can support your child's learning and independence at home.

- Encourage your child to take responsibility for their own belongings.
- Practise getting dressed and undressed independently, including putting on their coat and shoes.
- Practise phonics sounds together as they are introduced at school.
- Read and share stories together regularly.
- Visit your local library and explore different types of books.
- Play games together to develop language, communication and social skills.
- Encourage your child to talk about their day and share their experiences with you.

Most importantly, talk, play and read together. These everyday experiences are a wonderful way to support your child's development and learning.

## **What to do if you have any worries or concerns**

If you have any non-urgent learning, wellbeing or personal and social concerns about your child that you would like to discuss with their class teacher, please email [adminoffice@vigo.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@vigo.hants.sch.uk) or speak to a member of the team at the end of the school day.

Mornings are a very busy time for teachers as they welcome the children and prepare for the day's learning, so please avoid trying to speak with teachers at this time unless your concern is urgent.

## **Keeping up to date**

The school has recently updated the school website, and we are looking forward to sharing photographs and examples of the children's learning and activities throughout the year.

The Year R Team

Year Lead: Mrs Gough





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**Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs L Reid

**SENCO:** Mrs S Wright

Penguin Class: Miss Henry  
Whale Class: Miss Walmsley  
Seal Class: Miss Askwith

We are looking forward to a happy, exciting and successful year with your children and to working closely with you throughout their first year at Vigo Primary School.

The Year R Team

*R. Dance*

Rachel Dance  
Head teacher

