



Welcome to Rainbow Class



Your teacher will be:

Mrs Whitehall



Transition from Pre-school Setting to Long Lane Primary

At Long Lane we believe it is important to make the transition into school as smooth as possible and creating a good partnership with parents is essential.

Parents and children are invited to a late afternoon information session where they can meet staff and see the foundation stage classroom. After this, we try to visit as many children as possible in their nursery or pre-school setting and each setting will be given a transition booklet to use with the children. Once these visits are completed, the children have the opportunity to join us for a session where any pre-school keyworkers are also welcome to support the children who may need a familiar face on hand.

In September we will visit you. The child's class teacher and a teaching assistant will carry out these. Each parent is given an appointment time and these visits last about 20 minutes. A home visit provides an opportunity for the child to meet staff in their own family environment and allow parents to ask questions or discuss anything about their child enabling us to meet their needs more effectively.

During the home visit week there will also be a family morning session allocated either 9.15-10.30am or 11-12.15pm where parents can bring their child to familiarize themselves with routines, such as finding their peg and name cards. The child will need to bring a drink and snack with them.

Each child will be given a start date based on their date of birth which will be during the following two weeks. We believe this is the best structure of entry for the children and while it can be inconvenient for some working parents we appreciate your understanding of the importance of getting a smooth transition process.

Sometimes it is more suitable for a child to start part-time and build up to full time attendance over a number of weeks or months. This may be the case for children who have not already attended a pre-school setting on a full time basis, a child who is summer born or is not thought to be 'school ready', for example, be able to use the toilet by themselves. The class teacher will discuss this with parents on an individual basis.

Day-to-day running

- All full time children should be delivered to and collected from the Reception Classroom door.
- Children can come in to school from 8.45 a.m. when the door is opened. The school day starts at 8.55 am and children should be in by this time. Part time children will be collected from the school office at 12.10pm. School finishes at 3.15pm although the school gate opens before this when reception class children can be collected before going to pick up children in other year groups.
- If there are any changes to the usual arrangements for collecting your child from school, please tell the teacher in the morning or phone the office.
- If you are late bringing your child to school in the morning, please go to the school office. The office staff will then bring your child to the classroom.
- In the event of you being late to collect your child in the afternoon, please phone the school office. After about 10 minutes, your child will be taken to wait with the office staff by the main office.

- In the event of illness, please inform the office staff first thing in the morning, either by 'phone or via the Absence Reporting facility on Parentmail.
Telephone number: **0118 942 7187**
- Use of the Reception Garden is a very important part of our school day. The children have access to the garden even when it is raining providing they have a waterproof jacket with a hood and wellington boots. It would be helpful if your child could keep a small waterproof jacket and wellingtons in school at all times. The children will also need these for the forest school sessions along with a pair of gloves.
- Please ensure that everything brought into school is clearly named. This applies to **ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM, P.E. KIT** and any items for 'Show and Tell'. All children should have a book bag which can be purchased from the school office (**£4.50**)
- We are very keen to learn about important events in your child's life and are willing to discuss any concerns or issues concerning your child's schooling. However, it would be preferable to talk at the end of the day, rather than on arrival at school, as this can upset the settling in period at the start of the day.
- At first you are welcome to come into the classroom with your child to help him/her settle. After a few days it is expected the children will be able to do this themselves.



Snack

- There is a 'School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme' whereby all children up to the age of seven are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable free of charge each day. However, if you would like to provide your child with a mid-morning snack you are welcome to do so. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable. Biscuits, crisps, chocolate, cheese, fruit bars or yogurt coated fruit etc. are **not** allowed!
- All snacks should be in a named bag or box.
- Milk can be purchased from '**Cool Milk at School Ltd**'. (See attached details.) This milk is free to under-fives. You will be asked to sign your child up for milk during one of your visits.
- It is school policy that children have free access to water throughout the day. Please provide your child with a named water bottle. Water bottles can be purchased from the school office (**£1.50**). These must contain water only.

Lunch

- The school provides excellent healthy hot lunches ([See attached sample menu](#)). These meals are free for all children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2. Although it is tempting to take up a free lunch for your child, this is in a large hall and children may prefer a packed lunch instead which they eat in the classroom. School lunches are selected by your child each day. To help with the process parents should, whenever possible, discuss the menu choices with their child at home together.
- Your child can also bring a packed lunch from home. We do encourage healthy eating and always encourage children to eat their sandwiches first. Please note that fizzy drinks are not allowed at school. Children may drink fruit juice or squash with their lunch.

Preparation for school

...ways you can help

- Sing Nursery rhymes/ number rhymes.
- Spending time talking and listening to your child.
- I spy
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Snap
- Memory game
- Talking about visits, money, shopping...
- Encouraging your child to speak in sentences
- Looking at numbers around you e.g. door numbers, numbers on buses...
- Looking at signs and labels
- Talking about or playing games involving colour
- Looking at shapes around them
- Dressing and undressing themselves
- Independent toileting and handwashing
- Read stories to your child
- Encourage your child to write in lower case letters, rather than in capitals
- Alphabet books - becoming familiar with letter sounds as well as letter names
- Develop gross motor skills e.g. throwing, batting and catching a ball, climbing, swimming, painting and chalking large shapes.





Reading

- All children love listening to stories and sharing books with their parents. It is important to nurture this love of books and for children to understand that meaning can be gained from pictures and print. When your child first starts school, s/he will be encouraged to borrow a 'sharing book' from the class library.
- Children develop at different rates with some ready to start reading earlier than others. We assess your child's level of understanding and build on their achievements so far.
- Initially your child will bring letter sounds home to practise (eg a-a-a for apple, not the name A). You are encouraged to play games with the letter sounds eg. Searching for things beginning with that sound. Later children will have sets of words to practise at home.
- Home Reading books will be changed twice a week. The first reading books are usually picture books with no words. Please spend time with your child talking about the pictures, predicting what might happen next and building the story. The first reading books with words rely heavily on picture cues. Please encourage your child to use the pictures in conjunction with initial letter cues to help them read unfamiliar words. Most of the story is in the pictures at this stage. It is therefore important that you do not cover up the pictures, even when they have books with words in. Please encourage your child to speak in whole sentences. Although this is time consuming it is a vital stage in laying down the firm foundations for successful reading.

- Please sign or make a comment in the reading record book each time you hear your child read. We would like you to hear your child read as often as you can and everyday if possible. When your child has read the books they must be put in the blue box on their day depending on their team colour. The days are:

Monday and Thursday- Dragon/Griffin

Tuesday and Friday- Phoenix/ Unicorn

If you would like to volunteer to hear individual readers or to help the children to change their class library books, please speak to Mrs Whitehall.

- In the Reception Class we systematically teach phonic skills and place emphasis on this area of the curriculum. By the end of the first term the children will be grouped by ability for these sessions and will be mixed with Year 1. Reading books, which are phonics based, will be read in groups as part of this.
- Our phonics scheme, which runs up to Year 2 and then moves to the equivalent spelling scheme, is called "Read,Write Inc".
- You can find out more by visiting our school website www.longlane.w-berks.sch.uk or <http://longlane.w-berks.sch.uk/index.php/classes/phonics-spelling-workshop>

Writing

- Children need to develop gross and fine motor skills before they can successfully write. Many of our classroom activities (e.g. bead threading, play dough, peg boards, painting, jigsaws etc) are designed to help develop the muscles which are essential for writing skills. Activities such as swimming and ball games help develop gross motor skills and can support your child's physical development.
- When starting to teach letter formation, we start with three basic shapes: c - curly caterpillar, l - the long leg and r - the one-armed robot. Most of the other letters are based on these shapes.
- A sample of the letter style we use in school is included with this pack. When writing for your child, or encouraging him/her to write their name, please use lower case letters except for the initial one. It is very important to encourage a good pencil grip when a child starts to write.
- When children first start to write independently, they usually do 'pretend' writing. We encourage this and listen to what their writing 'says'. Gradually random letters appear in their writing, followed by letters which relate to the words they are trying to write. We encourage children to listen to the sounds and 'have a go' rather than trying to get everything right. This will come with time. Developing the confidence to write is very important at this stage.



Cooking Fund

We like to cook regularly with children and would appreciate a donation of £5 per year towards buying the ingredients. If we don't receive sufficient funds we will put out requests for ingredients from time to time.



School Uniform

Our school colours are Royal Blue, Grey and White and the uniform is as follows:

Girls

- Royal Blue Sweatshirt or cardigan
- White shirt or polo shirt or blouse
- Grey knee length skirt or culottes or pinafore or tailored grey trousers with grey socks or grey tights
- Blue/white checked dress (gingham style) with white socks
- Grey tailored knee length shorts with grey socks

Boys

- Royal Blue Sweatshirt
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Grey trousers with grey socks
- Grey shorts with grey socks

Shoes

All children should wear black sensible shoes with flat heels; trainers are not considered suitable footwear with school uniform. 'Canvas' type shoes, open toed sandals and boots are not appropriate. For the full list of school uniform, please see the school prospectus.

We have several suppliers of school uniform:

Tesco

- <http://www.tesco.com/direct/long-lane-primary-school/7110.school>

PMG Schoolwear

- <http://pmgschoolwear.co.uk/>

Sumosam's

- <http://www.sumosamtshirts.co.uk/>

Water bottles (£1.50) replacement lids (50p) and School book bags (£4.50) are available from the school office.



PE Kit

You will need:

- House coloured top (please see order form)
- Royal blue shorts
- Pumps and trainers with Velcro fastening



Show and Tell

The children will need to make a treasure box over the holidays and fill it with things which are important to them, for example, a baby photo and a favourite bear. They will then talk to the other children about the objects for their first show and tell.

After this a rota will be used with a set day for them to bring in something to show and tell. This should be either topic related (our first topic will be 'Rainbows') or an item such as a train ticket linked to something exciting the child has done. Please bring the treasure box when your child first starts school. Thank you

Safeguarding helpful information

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and you too can play your part. If you have concerns about a child, whether you're a parent/carer or a staff member, you can contact Mr Thorne (Head Teacher) or Mr. E. Barham (Safeguarding Governor) in confidence via the School Office or email directly to safeguarding@longlane.w-berks.sch.uk

The NSPCC's work in schools helps to encourage conversations about staying safe and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. This includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse, without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants If you would like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

Getting to school safely

We are very lucky to have Mr. Darling as our fantastic 'lollipop man'. He helps adults and children to cross the busy road directly outside the school entrance. In April 2016, the Local Authority, as part of their budget cuts, made the difficult decision to remove the funding for this role and all those right across West Berkshire. We have been extremely fortunate that we have had two separate companies come forward to generously act as sponsors. They are as follows:

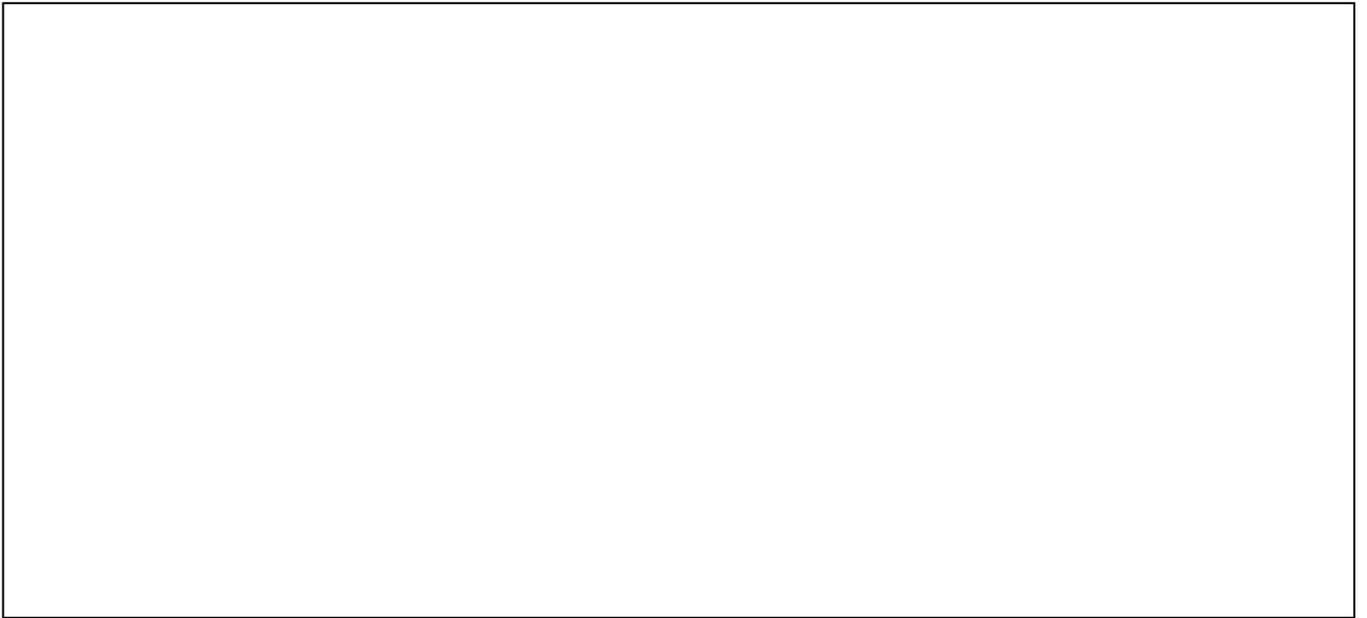
 <p>sansome  george Residential Sales & Lettings</p>	<p>Sansome and George (Estate Agents) 1 The Parade, Knowsley Road, Tilehurst, RG31 6FA</p>
 <p>Willmott's Plastic Building Products 0118 950 8929 www.willmotts.co.uk</p>	<p>Willmotts (UPVC Cladding) 9B Loverock Rd, Reading RG30 1DZ</p>

As a result of their generosity the school crossing patrol will continue to operate during the academic year 2018-19 from **8.30am to 9.00am** and **3.00pm -3.30pm** every pupil day.

All about Me

My name is.....

This is a picture of my family and pets



I am years old

My favourite colour is

My favourite food is

When I come to Long Lane I am most looking forward to

Please fill in this form with your child and return on your first day at school. Thank you

My Interests

Name:

These are the things I love to do!			
Toys	Games	Stories, rhymes and songs	Other activities
At the moment I am really interested in....		Programmes I like to watch on TV....	
My favourite things at pre-school....		Places I like to visit....	
Things I do not really like....		Family or special news....	

High Frequency and Medium Frequency Word List

Reception Year

I	go	come	went	up	you	day	was
look	are	the	of	we	this	dog	me
like	going	big	she	and	they	my	see
on	away	mum	it	at	play	no	yes
for	a	dad	can	he	am	all	him
is	cat	get	said	to	in	saw	her