

Welcome

We would like to welcome our new children and their carers into our Early Years family at Colney Heath, and welcome back those familiar faces who have all grown over the summer! We really look forward to working with you and your children over the coming months. The children have been settling into their new surroundings, building new relationships and learning new routines. They have made an incredible start! We are excited by the potential they have shown already and are looking forward to our learning journey together. Miss Turfrey, Mrs Osborne, Mrs Bhatt, Mrs Day and Mrs Alexander.

Curriculum

Following the EYFS framework our curriculum is planned to support your unique child's needs and interests. We also base learning experiences around the seasons, using rhymes and stories inside and out to encourage children to notice, enquire and develop their natural curiosity. Our first enquiry based question is 'Who helps us in our community?' We will be finding out about the people around us, the different jobs they do, and how they help to make our community a safe and happy place to live.

How can you help?

Children will take two library books home each Friday please read and discuss the story with your child. After asking questions about the story, ask your child what they saw, what happened, and what could happen next. Reception children will also start taking home reading books matched to their knowledge in phonics.

Encourage their mark making skills, forming lines and circles, or if they are ready letters from their name and simple words in reception.

Encourage them to notice colours, shapes, features and things that match. Talking about amounts, sizes and comparing.

Talk with your child about what they see around them. Go for walks, collect acorns, conkers and leaves. Ask them how things feel and wonder what can they hear? Chat and encourage them to talk as much as possible.

Communication and Language

3-4 years

- Developing listening and attention skills through songs, rhymes and stories.
- Expanding vocabulary when talking about experiences at home and in nursery.
- Following simple instructions.

4-5 years

- Developing listening skills in group times.
- Talking in full sentences to share ideas and experiences.
- Extending vocabulary linked to books and topics.

Physical Development

3-4 years

- Practising climbing, running, balancing and riding trikes.
- Beginning to use tools like scissors, paintbrushes and mark-making equipment.
- Learning about self-care, e.g. washing hands, putting on coats.

4-5 years

- Strengthening gross motor skills through climbing, balancing and games.
- Developing fine motor skills through mark-making, threading, and early handwriting.
- Beginning to form letters correctly with support.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

3-4 years

- Settling into routines and building relationships with adults and friends.
- Learning to share and take turns.
- Beginning to talk about their own needs, feelings and interests.

4-5 years

- Building confidence in new routines.
- Making friends and learning classroom rules.
- Beginning to manage feelings with adult support.

Literacy

3-4 years

- Enjoying and joining in with familiar rhymes and stories.
- Talking about pictures in books.
- **Phase One Phonics:** Tuning into sounds around them, exploring rhythm and rhyme, identifying initial sounds, and listening games.

4-5 years

- Listening to and retelling familiar stories.
- Talking about characters, settings and events.
- **Little Wandle Phonics:** Learning letter sounds (Phase 2 – sets 1–3: s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r).
- Beginning to blend sounds for simple words (sat, pin, etc.).
- Practising writing their names.

Mathematics

3-4 years

- Exploring numbers through songs and play.
- Matching and sorting objects.
- Comparing amounts (more/less).
- Recognising and using positional language (e.g. in, on, under).

4-5 years

- Counting, comparing and recognising numbers up to 5.
- Matching and sorting objects.
- Comparing groups using "more"/"fewer".
- Exploring repeating patterns.
- Understanding positional language.



EYFS 2025
Autumn Term 1

Understanding the World

3-4 years

- Talking about themselves, their families and their home lives.
- Exploring changes in nature in autumn.
- Beginning to notice similarities and differences in people and communities.

4-5 years

- Talking about their families and traditions.
- Exploring autumn changes in the environment.
- Using technology in simple ways (e.g. interactive whiteboard, tablets).

Expressive Arts and Design

3-4 years

- Exploring colours, textures and materials.
- Singing songs and moving to music.
- Using imagination in role play.

4-5 years

- Exploring different ways to use paint, collage and construction.
- Role-playing with friends in home corner or small world.
- Singing familiar songs and exploring musical instruments.

PE sessions

Our PE lesson is on Monday mornings with an additional session run by Mr. D from the Non-Stop Action team. Please ensure Reception children have their kits for both days and Nursery children have comfortable clothes and trainers.

Buddies

Our buddies from year 6 will join us for on Friday's to support us and have fun together

Outdoor Learning

Lots of our learning takes place outside. Therefore, we ask that your child wears suitable clothing (weather dependent) including welly boots. We do go out all weathers and want your children to be able to learn and explore the outdoors as much as possible.

Children's Belongings

Please ensure all items are clearly labelled to minimise the chance of things being lost. This includes hats and gloves in the winter. Please also send your child with a spare change of clothes incase of accidents.

Save the Date!!!

On **Friday 14th November** join us for our first class assembly at 9am where we will share our learning with you. An event not to be missed!

Book Bags

Please bring them daily. Your child will regularly bring their drawings and paintings home and they help to carefully store their school library books.

News from Home

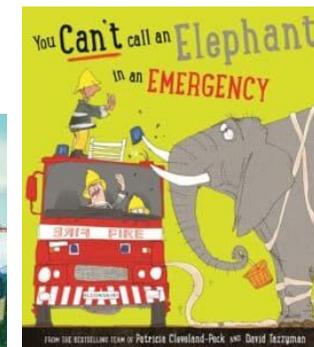
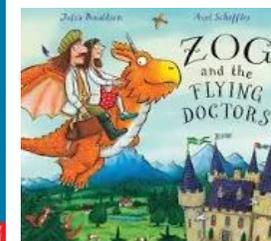
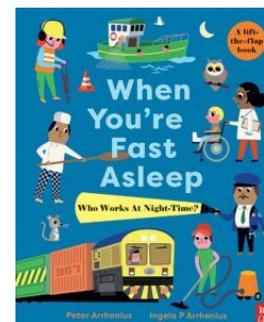
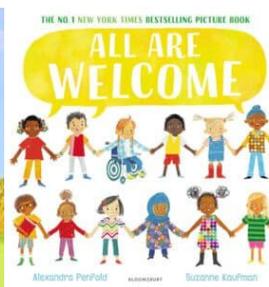
Please use your tapestry account to send us photos or short video clips of special family events, days out, walks in the park, paintings and models. We will then share these with the class. It is a great opportunity to promote children's confidence when speaking to their peers and helps us to further understand your unique child. Please also check the memo section for home learning tasks.

Early Years class email

EYFS@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk

Do get in touch if you have any questions or feel you have important information you wish to share. Please use the email above to communicate with us. Please be aware that important information that is relevant for same-day things, e.g. dentist/doctor appointments / pick-up arrangements / details about equipment etc, should be notified to the office, as the class email address may not be checked during that working day. We will try to respond to emails as soon as possible, and within 48 hours during the working week.

Autumn 1 Core Texts



Keeping up to date

Please do check the class pages section on the school website for current information, including photos of the children's learning in action. Please also read the newsletter to get involved in school wide events, supporting your child and school together. Thank you for your support in advance of a wonderful year ahead.