



Welcome to Early Years at Arunside Primary School. We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and are ready for a fun and exciting first term at school.

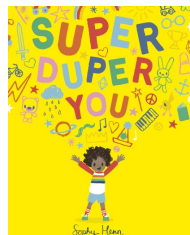
We have had a great few days getting to know your children, a super start to school life so far. During the first few weeks of school, we are confident that the children will settle in, get used to our routines, make new friends and try new experiences.

Initially, our priority is to ensure all children are happy and content at school. We will also be assessing their starting points in all areas of the Early Years Curriculum (known as baseline assessments). This does not mean that they will not be learning! Once the baseline assessments have been completed, the days will become more structured and the number of adult-directed activities will increase.

We will also be completing a National statutory baseline assessment of each child this half term which will primarily focus on Reading, Writing and Maths.



Our first topic is '**Super Duper Me**'. We will spend time finding out about the children's likes, dislikes, families, pets and what makes them special. We really look forward to finding out more about them.

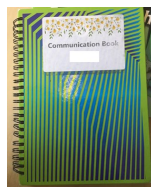


After October half term our topic is '**Celebrations**'. We will be learning about a variety of different celebrations, starting with Fireworks then on to Birthdays, Weddings, Hanukkah, Diwali and Christmas.



Our **role play area** will reflect the topic we are learning, ending the year with Santa's workshop—which is always very popular!

In the next few weeks your child will be bringing home a 'Communication book' for you to write in about reading and anything else you want to tell us about. This book will be checked two times a week on **Tuesday and Friday**. Soon, your child will bring home a decodable reading book in line with our Phonics scheme (My Letters and Sounds). This is also where we will keep you up to date with the new sounds we learn each week.



Please make sure that your child has a blue **school book bag** to transport their Communication book, school books, letters and works of art safely. We politely ask that children do not transport their water bottles in their bag as they often leak.



Children will be provided with a fruit or vegetable **snack** each day. However you can provide your child with their own snack (fruit, veg or a plain biscuit/plain bread sticks) if you wish. Please ensure that it is in a small named container. Please remember we are a **nut free** school.



**Milk** is free for all children under 5, but it has to be booked online. Once they turn 5, if they would still like milk you can book and pay for this. The office staff will be able to provide further information if required.

Please send your child with a **named bottle of water** (no juice or squash please) to have in the classroom. A separate drink of your choice can be included in a packed lunch if your child has one. Your child will have access to water throughout the day.



Please could you put some **spare underwear/clothes** in their blue school bookbag in case of any accidents.

**PE will be starting on FRIDAY 4th October.** Please arrive in PE kit on Friday every week.

The children will stay in their PE kit all day. This means we actually get a longer PE lesson rather than spending time getting changed! Please name all clothing.



From Monday 9th September the EYFS gate will be open at **8.35—8.50**. Pick up time is **3.10-3.20** from Tuesday 10th September. You can drop off/pick up at any time during this window. Once you have picked up your child from EYFS, if you need to go to the back playground to collect siblings you can use the stairs at the side of the building to access this.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Early Years Team. This is easier at the end of the school day, rather than at the start. The School Office will also be happy to help you with any queries via phone call or email and they can pass on messages to us.

We look forward working with you this year.

**Mrs Evans, Miss Thomson, Mrs Livanos, Mrs Myllykoski, Mrs Turner and Mrs Evershed** 😊

