



St Osyth C of E Primary School

A member of the Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust
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Tuesday 10th May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following on from last week's letter we would like to invite parents and children to a series of stay and play sessions. These will be held in the Reception classes, after school.

On **Tuesday 21st June 3:45pm-4:30pm**, we will be holding the first of three 'Stay and Play' sessions. This is a great chance to get to meet other classmates and parents.

Our second stay and play session will be on **Tuesday 28th June, 3:45pm-4:30pm**. During this session, children will stay with Reception Staff in the classrooms (If your child is comfortable and confident enough to), while parents will gather in the school hall for an introduction to staff, the school and how the settling in period will operate when your child starts Reception in September. There will also be plenty of time to ask questions about any preliminary concerns you may have.

The final stay and play session will be held on **Tuesday 5th July, 3:45pm-4:30pm**. Tea and coffee will be available in the room/office, just outside the Early Year's classrooms, providing you with an opportunity to leave your child to play, while you meet and chat with other parents. Our learning mentor will also be available to answer any of your questions.

At around this time of year, Reception staff will also be visiting preschool settings, talking to practitioners about your child and meeting the children in their own familiar environment.

We will also be undertaking home visits. A member of staff will phone and arrange a convenient time for Reception staff to visit your child in their own home, an environment where they are most comfortable and secure, to get to know them a little better and to answer any questions or concerns, before school starts in September.

Parents are also invited to stay for a **free school lunch** with their child on **Thursday 7th July**. This provides an opportunity for you to see what happens as part of the lunchtime process, as well as helping to settle your child into their new routine. If you are interested in doing this, please complete the appropriate form in your pack - a menu sheet, choosing which option you and your child would like to eat. Please take note of your allocated time to arrive. This is to enable us to stagger the rush and cut down on the time spent waiting in a queue.

Starting School in September

The full range of INSET days have yet to be finalised. Further information and term dates, can always be found on our school website. However, children will be starting school on **Monday 5th September**. Children will attend for the **morning only** – doors open **8:30am** and will need to be collected at **12:00pm**.

On **Tuesday 6th September**, children will attend for the **morning only with lunch** – doors open **8:30am**. Children will need to be collected at **1:30pm**. These shorter days enable children to build up confidence with all the new situations in which they will find themselves and helps with the settling in process. School is a different setting when compared to pre-school, with new rules, routines and expectations that the children need time to get used to.

From **Wednesday 7th September**, Children will attend school for the whole day – doors open **8:30am** and will need to be collected at **3:05pm**.

We look forward to meeting you at our first stay and play session on **Tuesday 21st June**, but please do not hesitate to pop in, or pick up the phone 01255 820 823, if you have any concerns at all. We are committed to ensuring that every child has the very best, happiest and smoothest start to their school life and that parents and carers find it as painless as possible too.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Esparon (EYFS Lead and Teacher)

Summary of stay and play sessions and timings:

- Tuesday 21st June 3:45pm-4:30pm – First stay and play session **with parents present**.
- Tuesday 28th June 3:45pm-4:30pm – Second stay and play session **Children only**. (Parents introduction talk in the school hall.)
- Tuesday 5th July 3:45pm-4:30pm – Final stay and play session. **Children only**. (Parents coffee and chat available outside classroom in learning hub area)
- Free lunch in school with your child –arrival times will be staggered depending on your child’s surname.
Group 1 Child’s Surname A-D - 11:45am – 12:15pm
Group 2 Child’s Surname E-P- 12:00pm – 12:30pm
Group 3 Child’s Surname Q-Z 12:15pm – 12:45pm
Parents stay to lunch with their child and can then take child home after eating lunch together
- June-July – Reception staff visiting pre-school settings and carrying out Home Visits.

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Please return the slip to the school office to let us know if you are able to attend.

Name of child

I confirm that we/I will be coming to:

(circle/delete)

- Stay and Play session after school - with parents, on:
Tuesday 21st June 3:45pm-4:30pm yes/no
- Stay and Play session after school - children only,
with Parent Meeting in school hall on:
Tuesday 28th June 3:45pm-4:30pm. yes/no
- Stay and Play session after school – children only, on:
Tuesday 5th July 3:45pm-4:30pm yes/no
- Parents Lunch – with child, on:
7th July Yes/no
Group 1 - 11:45am – 12:15pm
Group 2 - 12:00pm – 12:30pm
Group 3 – 12:15pm – 12:45pm