



John Blandy Primary School

Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3 and 4! We have three classes working together: Cedar (Miss Hamill), Sycamore (Miss Empson) and Walnut (Mrs Cairns and Mrs Coultas). We are excited to have the classes arranged this way, and next door to each other, ensuring the children have consistent experiences this year.

Morning and home time arrangements

The children will enter via Fir Tree gate each morning and make their way to their classroom. We would like the children to continue to grow in their independence this year and therefore, please can we ask that you encourage your child to leave parents and carers at the school gate. The gate will close promptly at 8:40am. If you need to speak with one of us, the best time to catch us is at the end of the day or you can make an appointment via the office. We ask that parents don't come into the Rainbow Building in the mornings as part of our safeguarding procedures. Should you have a quick message for the class teacher, please write a note or email us via the office.

At the end of the school day, the children will be collected outside of their classroom via the fire exit door.

Water bottles and Uniform

Please ensure that your child has a **clearly** named water bottle so that they have easy access to drinking water throughout the day. It is always helpful to have all school uniform and PE kit **clearly** named so that children and staff know who they belong to. We do ask that the school uniform policy is followed and a quick overview can be found here: <https://www.johnblandyprimary.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1135&type=pdf>

PE

PE kit should remain in school in a labelled bag. We aim for this to be sent home at half term to be washed, however PE kits can be washed at any point in the term should you wish. Please ensure though these are in school for our PE days which are:

Cedar – Monday and Friday

Sycamore – Monday and Thursday

Walnut – Wednesday and Friday

During the colder weather we would encourage children to wear plain black or navy-blue joggers/leggings as most P.E lessons will be outside. Please avoid heavy logo'd items of clothing.

Reading and homework

Each week, the children will be set spellings and times tables / maths facts to rehearse. These will come home in their homework books on a Wednesday. They will be tested on their spellings and times tables/maths facts towards the start of the week. We have subscriptions to both EdShed and TT Rockstars and these are a great resource for practising. Your child's log in details are in the front of their homework books.

www.johnblandyprimary.org.uk

John Blandy Primary School, Laurel Drive, Southmoor, Oxfordshire. OX13 5DJ

t: 01865 820422 e: office@jbl.faringdonlearningtrust.org

Headteacher: Mrs Elliott

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John Blandy Primary School

We expect children to read at least 5 times each week to an adult to help consolidate their reading and/or phonics. Please record the book they have read, along with the number of pages read in your child's homework book. Reading at home really does have a big impact on a child's learning so your support with this is greatly appreciated. House points will be awarded to those going above and beyond with their reading. We would love to hear how well they have read, so please do feel free to make a comment! Each child needs to have a reading book in school every day – this can be a book from home, from our class library, the school library or a phonics book. Reading books must be in school each day. Please ensure any school reading books are looked after to avoid incurring a book replacement charge.

Equipment

Your child will need: two free-flowing navy blue including pens (not gel pens or biros), pencils, pencil sharpener, pencil crayons, glue stick, purple pen, 15/30cm ruler and whiteboard pen. We will of course have supplies for anyone who needs any of the above.

Break and lunch time

In KS2, children will take their healthy food snack from home out with them at break. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather (eg hat, coat). At lunchtime, the children will go out to play first and then be called in for their lunch. This will be new for the Year 3 children but it has been explained and modelled to them this week. Once they have finished their lunch, the children will return to the playground or field to play for the rest of the time.

Parent Helpers

Throughout the year, we have various trips, sporting fixtures and events taking place for which we will need parent helpers. If you are interested in being a parent helper this year, please could you email the office to let us know, if possible, indicating which days of the week you are available. We can then pull together a list of volunteers that we can call upon.

We are all very much looking forward to working with the children this year and sharing their achievements with you. If at any point, you have queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, either via a message to the office, by making a note in the homework books or catching one of us at the end of the day.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at our **virtual Meet the Teacher at 3:45-4:15 pm on Tuesday 8th September** where we will discuss the contents of this letter and expectations in more detail. The link to the meeting will be emailed to you in due course.

Kind regards,

The Lower Key Stage 2 team (LKS2)

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