



Together we shine

Useful
Information for
Year R Parents

Welcome

We are really looking forward to an exciting year ahead and welcoming you all into our school. We have put together this booklet to answer any questions you may have.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

The Year R Team



What to bring each day

Your child will need to wear a coat to school each day, as the children spend a lot of time in the outdoor provision. In the colder months, your child may also need a hat and gloves. A sun hat will be required during the warmer months. All of these items will need to be labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please can your child come to school each day with their water bottle (filled with water only, not squash). Please ensure that this is also clearly labelled with your child's name.

Bookbags need to come into school each day too. They will be kept in school and returned to you each day. Your child will bring home reading books and home learning in this each week.

Uniform



Children wear red sweatshirts or cardigans, red or white polo shirts and grey or black trousers or skirts. In the summer, girls may wear a red checked summer dress. Boys are able to wear grey or black shorts. Black school shoes should be worn.

You may wish to put a spare pair of named pants and spare clothes in your child's book bag in case of accidents.

Reception learning can sometimes be messy and your child's uniform may get dirty. Please be understanding!

Dropping off and picking up arrangements

At the beginning of the day please wait with your child on the small junior school playground until their teacher arrives to collect them at **8.50am**. Please encourage your child to line up with their teacher. We will support your child to say goodbye to you on the playground. At the end of the day the children will walk back down to the small junior school playground to greet you. Pick up is at **3.20pm**. The teacher must see the adult that your child is going home with before we let them go. This can take some time to begin with whilst we are getting to know you all. Please be patient and bear with us.

Please let your class teacher know if there will be a different adult picking your child up from school. We are not able to let the children go with anyone we have not been informed about. If there is a change during the school day, please let the school office know and they will pass the message on to us.

PE

We will not be starting PE until Autumn 2 (week commencing 4.11.24). Your child will change into their kit whilst at school and then need to leave their PE kit in school.. They will bring it home during the school holidays for a wash.

For PE, the children wear plain white t-shirts, black shorts and trainers. Please can you make sure all of your child's PE kit is clearly labelled with their name, and put in a named bag.

Forest Sessions

In Autumn 2 (week commencing 4.11.24), we will be starting our Forest Sessions. We will give you more information about this nearer the time, but your child will need to have a named pair of wellies which stay in school..



Library Books

Later in the Autumn Term, we will start our Library sessions. Your child will have the opportunity to choose a library book to take home for the week.

When we start our Library sessions, please make sure you return your child's Library book in their bookbag every Wednesday. They will not be able to take another book home, unless their book is returned. Unreturned or lost books may result in a fine.



Lunch Time

You will have likely already set up your Arbor account, you will need to order your child's lunch via Arbor. If your child is having a school dinner, please make sure you have logged in and ordered your child's lunch by midnight the previous day. School dinners are **free** for all children in infant school.

We recommend that you discuss your child's lunch option with them each day, so they know what they will be having. You can order the lunches in advance (the meals are on a three week rota). Please check if your child has enjoyed the meals and change them if required.

If your child is not having a school dinner, they can bring a packed lunch. This must be a balance of healthy foods. They can have a separate squash drink in their lunchbox for drinking at lunchtime **only**. Sweets / confectionery are not allowed in lunch boxes.

If your child has specific dietary requirements, you will need to create an account with our catering supplier, [HCC Education Catering](#), and upload your medical evidence. Education Catering will then devise an adapted menu for your child.

We are strictly a nut free school and have children in school with severe nut allergies. There must be **NO nut products** in lunch boxes which includes chocolate spread, e.g. Nutella, kinder chocolate etc.



Snacks

Snacks are provided by the school during our Discovery Time sessions. This will include a fruit or vegetable of the day and milk. Please let the school know, if your child has any allergies.



As we are a healthy school, we do not allow cakes or sweets to be brought into school for birthday celebrations.

Woodpeckers

Woodpeckers is a breakfast and after school club which is held in our school hall. If you would like your child to attend, please contact Woodpeckers directly.

[Gomer – Woodpeckers \(woodpeckerschildcare.co.uk\)](http://woodpeckerschildcare.co.uk)

Please let your class teacher know if your child will be attending Woodpeckers, and which sessions they will be doing.

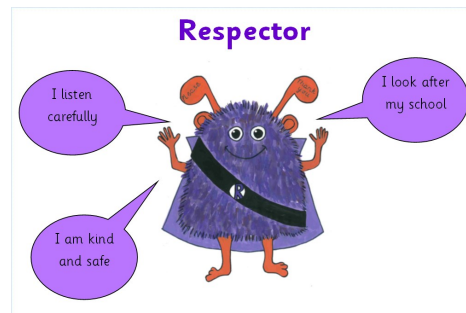
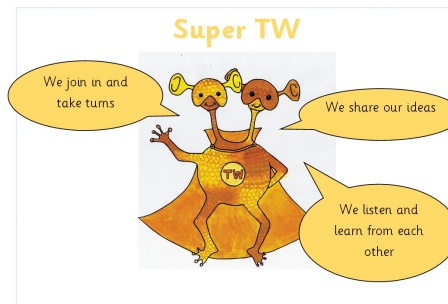
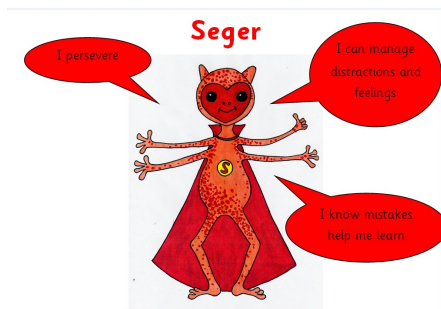


Workshops

During the Autumn term, we will be holding various workshops on to give you more information about how we teach the children. More information will be sent out to you about this nearer the time.

Alien Learning Powers

At Gomer Infant School, we have four aliens that support our children to develop important life and learning skills such as respect, resilience and teamwork. These aliens will be introduced to your child over the coming weeks.



Every day, a child in each class is chosen to receive the Respector Award, for being just like Respector and showing the following respectful behaviours:



In recognition of this, they will wear the Respector badge for the day!

Later in the year, we will also introduce the Shine Award which recognises when the children have shown learning behaviours attributed to our other aliens.

Medical

If your child is absent from school, you must phone the school office and leave a message. The school telephone number is:

02392 580808

Any sickness or diarrhoea, must be followed by 48 hours absence.

Medicines can only be administered in school if a form has been completed and signed at the school office.

Head lice are common. Please check regularly and treat as recommended.

Attendance

Please ensure your child is in school on time. Your child should arrive at school between 8.50am and 9am.

If you arrive after this time, they will be marked as 'late'. The class doors will be closed, and you must access school through the school office.

If your child has any appointments, please let the school office know in advance so they can notify us.

If you are planning to take your child on holiday, you should complete a holiday request form in advance. This can be collected from the school office. Please be aware that there are instances where the senior leadership team cannot approve holidays. This may result in unauthorised absence or a fine.

Tapestry

Tapestry is our main method of communication with you and it is essential that you check it regularly. Please can you like the posts when you have read them, so we know they have been seen.

Each week, we will send you a Weekly Post to let you know what the children will be learning that week, plus any reminders. We also use Tapestry to share photos from school events with you. If your child's pre-school has previously used Tapestry, you may not receive as many posts as you have been used to.

You are very welcome to share your child's achievements from home with us, by posting on Tapestry. We love to see what the children have been up to!

If you have any questions for your class teacher, you can contact them on Tapestry. The teachers will aim to get back to you within a couple of days, between their working hours of 8am and 6pm. If it is more urgent, please speak to the teacher at the start or end of the day, or contact the school office.



What I can I do to help my child at home?

We are regularly asked what parents can do to support their child with their transition into school. Here are some ideas:

- Help them to be able to dress themselves independently.
- Help them to be able to put on and do up their own coat.
- Help them to be able to use the toilet independently.
- Read lots of stories and talk about what is happening.
- Count and look for numbers in the environment.
- Help your child to write their name (using lower case letters).
- Go to the park - crawling through tunnels, climbing and using the monkey bars will help strength for writing.
- Encourage your child to do things laying on their tummy (colouring, watching TV etc.). This will help strength for writing.
- Talk about school and what they can expect.
- Regularly share the posts to Tapestry. This is will help your child to become more familiar with the school environment and adults.
- Complete the home learning activities provided with your child.

Have a wonderful summer!

We hope you have found this information useful.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Year R Team