



Barn Owls
YR1 and YR2

Barn Owls: Meet the Team!

We are the Barn Owls team and we are here to teach, support and challenge our Key Stage 1 pupils to be the best that they can be.



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Miss. Tori King, Class Teacher

"I love teaching, especially phonics and English. I am passionate about children engaging with the creative arts so you can anticipate lots of songs, art, and dance!

I am thrilled to be teaching Barn Owls class whilst Mrs. Baldwin is on maternity leave, it's going to be an exciting year. If you need information or support, please make contact via Class Dojo or the main school office, and I will be happy to help."



Mrs. Short (Mon-Weds) and Ms. Jonas (all week): Learning Support Team

"We love supporting the learning at Milton Abbot School and especially enjoy Key Stage 1, where there is always fun to be found in the children's ideas and so much progress to watch as the children grow and develop."

Mrs. Short is Thrive trained, which is a scheme designed to support with pupils' growing and developing emotional needs. Both Ms. Jonas and Mrs. Short will be undertaking 'Play Therapy' training this term, which they can apply in class to support with the growing emotional and social needs of our young learners.

Reading and Phonics: the key learning Priority

Daily Phonics and Reading Practice: 09:00 - 09:45

Reading continues to be a key priority for our Key Stage 1 learners and any practice at home can make all the difference, so thank you for any and all time you can apply to this. We have a great track record of reading success at Milton Abbot School, enhanced by the systematic approach of the 'Read Write Inc.' phonics scheme. This link offers you more information: [Parent guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics | Oxford Owl](#)



The children go into different groups each morning to be taught reading and phonic skills, to ensure the teaching matches their stage of knowledge. 'Read Write Inc' regularly assesses the progress of each pupil and this means they can move on to the next set/group when they are secure – a child can move quite rapidly but that's where extra practice at home really helps.



Timetable

After phonics, a typical day will include English, Maths and a Foundation subject in the afternoon (e.g., Art, History, PE, Music...) with stories shared throughout the day. There is a morning break around 10:30 and lunch is at 12:00. For more

information on our Curriculum, please visit our website. This year we are following 'Cycle B': [Curriculum Vision - Milton Abbot Primary School](#)

Lunch

There is a team who attend to Barn Owls in the hall at lunch time, including Ms. Jonas, Mrs. Bird and Mr. Luxford. The children begin eating at 12:00 and we don't begin outside play until 12:20, which usually gives enough time for the children to eat and drink everything up - though we don't rush anyone. We like to take this time to remind children how to use their cutlery correctly but any support at home with this is great for your child.

Outside the children can choose between the MUGA or the middle playground, though we also regularly open the garden and trim trail.



Home learning – Skills to Success!

We know how lucky we are to have fantastic parent support for the children's learning, so thank you once again. We try not to over-burden you and the home

learning is skills based and revision of areas taught in class and that needs repeated practice to master (spellings, times-tables, reading, key facts). We send home learning out on a **Wednesday and ask for it to come back in on a Monday.**

We will check with you at home if it has not come in just in case it has 'got lost' or 'mum can't find it' as we sometimes get! We can also make time in school for anyone who struggles to complete at home - we would hate for home learning to become a 'battle ground'...

Assessment

Key Stage 1 marks the beginning of the National Curriculum and it is the objectives contained within this that the children are assessed against. Teachers complete ongoing assessments during lessons and when they mark books to identify strength or misconceptions held by the children, so they can quickly move them on.

We report to parents at parents evenings twice a year **and we are intending on holding the first one before half-term**, though this may continue to have a virtual element to it with Covid infection rates so high across the South West currently.

However, we are happy to discuss your child with you at any time - it's our favourite subject. Please do make contact and we can discuss progress in terms of academic ambitions and personal development stages.

Medical checks...

Finally, we would just like to draw your attention to the need to have your child's eyes, ears and teeth regularly checked. During Key Stage 1, children can change and develop in so many ways, and so it would be advisable to get their eyes and ears checked by the experts. Thank you.

