



**Learning
is ACE**

Astley Primary School

Fakenham Road, Briston, Melton Constable, Norfolk, NR24 2HH

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Headteacher: Mrs J Goakes



Welcome to Bear Class



Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Dear Families,

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and are looking forward to the year ahead. As the Autumn Term begins children will have the opportunity to settle into their new routines, explore their new environment and to get to know the Foundation Stage staff a little more.

I will be teaching the class Monday-Friday. Mrs Allen will be teaching the class on a Thursday afternoon. Miss Ellis will be working in the class every day as our class Teaching Assistant. Mrs Cleall will be in the classroom throughout the week as our 1:1 Classroom Assistants. Mr Dart is our Forest School Teacher.



Miss Stagg

Class Teacher



Miss Ellis

Teaching Assistant



Mrs Allen

HLTA



Mr Dart

Forest School



Mrs Cleall

1:1 Teaching Assistant

The children will be investigating and achieving in the seven areas of learning as set out in the Early Years Curriculum. Learning through structured play will be an important part of the school day. This will be taught through a variety of topics and experiences, guided through spontaneous planning. The first topic of investigation is 'Let's Explore.' Please see the attached overview of learning for this half term showing our starting points for your child's learning. We are always adapting and changing these objectives as the half term progresses to challenge and support.

Family Photos:

To help the children settle into their new classroom they are invited to bring in a family photo over the next few weeks to share, and it will be added to our photo wall. If you prefer to email a photo, please send to the office - office@astleyprimary.org.uk and I can print it.

Drop-off and Pick-ups:

Children can arrive through any gate when being dropped off in the morning between **8:30-8:45am**. Initially a member of Bear Class will be at the top of the walkway (Malley's Alley) to welcome Bears in the mornings and help them to walk to the Hastings building. I will be in the class to help them to settle.

As Bears become more familiar with the morning routine, Bear Staff will be in the classroom but there will always be a member of the Astley Team on the walkway to greet the children. We ask that after the first few weeks you come no further than the start of Malley's Alley. This not only avoids unnecessary congestion but helps to encourage the Bears to become independent.

At the end of the day Bears will enter the playground via the end wooden gate on the far left. Please ensure that you are on the playground ready to collect your child at **3:15pm**. If for any unavoidable reason you are unable to arrive at school on time, please contact the office as soon as possible.



Bears class will enter the Hastings Building by going down Malley's Alley. At the end of the day children will be handed over to parents on the playground.

What your child needs to bring:

Your child should come in school uniform unless it is their PE or Forest School Day (see PE/Forest School section for further information on this). There will be a hot dinner option available but if your child would prefer a packed lunch from home, please send them in with this as well. Your child will be offered a free piece of fruit for snack, but children could bring their own piece of fruit or a healthy snack alternative (no cakes, sweets, chocolate please).

All children are to bring in a named water bottle each day which will be kept in the classroom and can be accessed by the children throughout the day. Please ensure your child always has a full change of clothes in their bag. Finally, please ensure your child brings wellingtons to leave in school and always has a waterproof coat available. Only one school bag is needed. This can be either a book bag or a rucksack. Please do not bring both as space is limited in the cloakroom area.

PE:

Our PE day is Friday. Your child should come to school in their school PE kit on this day, starting on **Friday 11th September**. This should be a plain white or house team coloured t shirt, dark shorts and trainers. There should be no big logos or emblems, and no football kits. Please ensure long hair is tied back and earrings are removed on these days. On colder days you may want to wear a warmer top and tracksuit bottoms. Please label all clothes especially jumpers and cardigans.

Forest Schools:

I'm super excited to inform you that your child will be taking part in Forest School on a Wednesday morning.

The children will be outside in all weathers, so please could you ensure that they have named wellies (should already be in school), waterproof coats (and trousers if possible) with them and come to school wearing warm clothes on cold days. They are not required to wear school uniform for Forest School days. Forest School will start next week on **Wednesday 9th September**.

Home/school Contact:

Please send us a note or feel free to make an appointment at the office if you have any queries or would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum or your child's education. To find out more about what we have been up to in class, please follow us on **Instagram @astleyprimary**. Our weekly Astley Advertiser also gives key dates and information about what is happening in school.

We cannot wait to see your child tomorrow and look forward to hearing all about their summer holiday. Please remember we are here for both you and your child. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions and discuss any concerns you may have at any time throughout the school year.

Checklist:

- *lunch /snack if needed
 - *Water bottle
 - *Wellingtons to leave in school
 - *Waterproof coat
 - *Rucksack or book bag
- (please name all items)

Yours sincerely,



Miss Stagg
Bear Class Teacher

