

## Blanchelande Infants

'A family not a factory'



<b>Patron:</b>	Lady Loveridge	
<b>Trustees:</b>	Advocate J.P. Greenfield, LL.B M.J. Fattorini F.C.A C.T. Fish, B.Sc., (Econ.), F.C.A	
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<b>Principal:</b>	Mrs. L.M.E. Le Page, B.Sc. (Hons.), P.G.C.E.	
<b>Teaching Staff:</b>	Mrs. A.Tolcher, B.Ed (Hons) Mrs. S. Dorey, B.Ed Mrs. A. Yeoman, B.A. (Hons) Miss V. Blondel, B.A. (Hons)	Head of Primary Year 1 and Year 2 Teacher Part Time Year 1 Teacher Reception Teacher
<b>Ancillary Staff:</b>	Mrs. K. Le Cras Mrs. N. Young Mrs. C. Marquis Miss D. Help	Pre-School Leader/Nursery Nurse Pre-School Practitioner Teaching Assistant Teaching Assistant

## 1. INTRODUCTION

We welcome you and your child to Blanchelande Infants and hope that you will find the information contained in this booklet of interest.

At Blanchelande Infants the College Mission Statement guides our ethos. We believe in the potential of all our children and staff to achieve the highest possible standards in a climate of growth and opportunity.

The aims of our school are as follows:-

- ◆ To provide a happy, caring, well-ordered learning environment in which children feel secure and motivated
- ◆ To foster the self-confidence, self-esteem and independence of all in a climate of growth and opportunity that will enable us to achieve our full potential
- ◆ To inspire our children, give them a love of learning and a sense of satisfaction from achievement
- ◆ To establish a sound, friendly and professional working relationship between home and school
- ◆ To create a community in which sensitivity is shown to the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of all our pupils
- ◆ To provide a well-structured and balanced curriculum which will help the child develop:
  - (a) Verbal and listening skills, legible handwriting, numeracy and literacy
  - (b) Basic knowledge about scientific facts and living things
  - (c) Awareness of the world in which we live
  - (d) Self-expression in the arts of music, movement and craft
  - (e) The acquisition of practical, physical and technological skills
  - (f) Problem solving skills
- ◆ To develop and encourage moral and spiritual values, awareness of the needs of others and some understanding of cultural and religious differences.
- ◆ To promote good relationships with the local community and to encourage close co-operation between home and school.

We feel sure that your association with us will be a happy one. Should you have any worries or problems concerning your child at any time, please come along and discuss them with the class teacher or Mrs. Tolcher. Most concerns can normally be resolved in this way.

## 2. WORKING TOGETHER

### School Rules

1. Pupils will be expected to follow the Golden Rules as listed below.
2. Pupils must maintain a suitable standard of appearance and behaviour at all times and in all places.
3. Pupils are expected to participate fully in all areas of school life.
4. Pupils should be correctly dressed when travelling to and from school.

We follow The Golden Rules and take part in Golden Time as a means of promoting positive behaviour.

The Golden Rules are:-

Do be gentle	-	Don't hurt anyone
Do be kind and helpful	-	Don't hurt people's feelings
Do be honest	-	Don't cover up the truth
Do work hard	-	Don't waste time
Do look after property	-	Don't waste or damage things
Do listen to people	-	Don't interrupt

### Reward Systems

The children have targets set throughout the year and when they are achieved this is recognised and rewarded.

### Home / School Partnership

We strongly believe that we can only achieve the best for our pupils by close co-operation between home and school. We value parents as co-educators and aim to foster a partnership of mutual respect and trust. We encourage parents to play an active role in school life by helping in the classroom, accompanying us on school trips, and supporting the events arranged by the P.T.A. There will be two parents evenings held during the school year, the first being in October when we can let you know how your child has settled and how you can help at home. The second is held in the Spring Term. A report will be sent home in July to inform you of your child's progress.

## **Traffic in School**

Please park at the rear of the school and enter by the door beside the Blondel Earl Dance Studio when bringing your child to school. There is no access for traffic to the front of the school during school hours. Parents must exit via the Little Chapel between 9.15 and 3 o'clock. Please ensure that the school always has a current telephone number where you can be contacted.

Children keep to the right when walking in corridors and the stairs.

Please drive very slowly in the College grounds at all times and obey all traffic signs.

## **Help in School**

We always welcome extra adult helpers, more hands definitely make light work. It is beneficial to everyone, children, staff and parents, as it gives them an insight into how the school works and how they can best help their child. There are a variety of ways in which you can help whether it is art/ reading/ gardening/swimming/playing games. If you have expertise in any of the curriculum areas we will gladly make use of them. Parents, like all staff members, are required to give permission for a police check to be done. Confidentiality is always of paramount importance. Please contact either Mrs. Tolcher or your child's teacher if you are interested.

## **3. CURRICULUM**

Children are provided with a learning environment based on first hand experience of the world in which we live and related to their developmental needs and interests.

Schemes of work are followed throughout the school for all curriculum areas, and children progress through the schemes with work matched to their individual needs. These schemes of work incorporate the requirements of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and the National Curriculum and ensure equal opportunities for children to meet attainment targets.

Our curriculum includes the development of Language Skills, Speech, Reading and Writing, together with an understanding of basic Mathematics extended by practical experiences. French will be taught through the use of puppets, music and rhymes.

Artistic skills and interests are developed through Creative and Musical activities. Children are given opportunities to experience styles of various artists and composers including artistic works from different cultures. Occasionally, visiting specialists will demonstrate their skills to the children.

Physical education helps create an awareness of movement and skills in sports, athletics etc. Children experience, practise and develop a variety of early sporting skills e.g. sending, receiving and travelling with a ball, elements of sports that include chasing, dodging, avoiding and awareness of space and other players etc. The children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 will swim at Forest School in the summer term.

## **CURRICULUM (continued)**

Children are also encouraged to take an interest in the natural world through History, Geography and Science. They will prepare for life in the modern technological world through Design and Technology and through the use of Information Technology across the curriculum. In the Foundation Stage we refer to these areas as Knowledge and Understanding of the World.

'Wanachi' a North American Indian term meaning 'chosen one'. Each week one child from each class has their name drawn from a hat. Every child has a turn and brings in special family and pet photos and objects related to special events in their lives, plus a favourite toy or book. Every child in the class makes a positive comment about the child and they choose a piece of work to display for one week. Children's confidence and self esteem increases and as a result is beneficial to their development. In Reception, the children also have one opportunity to take home the class bear for one weekend.

Personal Social and Health Education issues are addressed both within other relevant curriculum areas and as circle time lessons each week.

We are a Catholic school and Christianity occupies a key role in Religious Education within the school and in addition children are encouraged to share experiences of their own religious customs, practices and celebrations with children from other cultures through stories, poetry, art, music etc. We follow the scheme that is used throughout the Diocese of Portsmouth.

Our overall aim is to provide a happy, caring, stimulating environment in which each child will feel secure, thus enabling each child to develop their full potential in every aspect of education.

A termly curriculum newsletter will be sent home each term telling you about the topics your child will be covering and how you can help at home. A maths target sheet will inform you of the objectives your child will be covering and suggesting ways in which you can make learning fun. We have three bears which children may ask to take on holiday with them. Parents take photos of the bears and bring back artefacts (postcard, leaflets) from places visited. The children tell their class what was different between the places visited and Guernsey.

## **Homework**

Homework is an important part of the learning process and pupils are expected to complete homework assignments.

Reception pupils are expected to learn the Jolly Phonics sounds and actions. They will be given a minimum of three new sounds a week to learn at home. Once they are confident in their knowledge of phonics, they will bring home key words to learn. Pupils are expected to share a book /read regularly with their parents. The home/school diary is used to encourage dialogue between staff and parents. Pupils should bring it to school every day together with their reading book and bag. They will sometimes be requested to complete a task at home or bring things related to the current topic into school.

Years 1 and 2 pupils are expected to read for 15 minutes every day, plus weekly spellings have to be learned. Maths sheets are given twice a week. Sometimes topic research is required.

#### 4. DAY TO DAY DETAILS

##### School Hours

Early Bird Sessions	8.15 to 9.00
School starts at	9.00
Break	10.45 to 11.00
Lunch	12.30 to 1.30
Afternoon Session	1.30 to 2.30
Break	2.30 to 2.45
Final Session	2.45 to 3.00

Late Leavers (those with sisters  
elsewhere in the College) 3.15

##### School Calendar

The Year Calendar is published before the end of April each year for the following academic year. A Term Calendar is published at the beginning of each term.

##### Uniform

We believe our uniform promotes a feeling of **"togetherness and belonging"** and are sure that parents will continue to support this policy.

Grey school trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore  
 Red polo shirt  
 Grey v-necked Blanchelande jumper  
 White or grey socks, or tights, not sport socks  
 Sensible black shoes preferably with Velcro fastening and not with laces  
 Red fleece  
 Blanchelande summer dresses (optional)  
 Aprons (with sleeves) for painting and cooking should be purchased (or alternatively one of Dad's old shirts may be used)  
 Wellingtons  
 Swimming costume and hat for summer term  
 All these are available from Fletcher Sports and Podgers  
 Hair accessories must be grey, white, black or red and worn if hair is long.  
 Reading bags and sunhats (with school crest) are available for purchase from the class teachers.

##### **P.E. Outfit for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 only**

Children are required to change for physical education.

White t-shirt  
 Black shorts  
 Indoor Plimsolls (outdoor trainers in summer) in a named shoe bag

## **P.E. Outfit for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 only (continued)**

If your child is unable to fasten laces, it would be appreciated if he/she could wear the elasticated pull-on type of plimsolls.

In the winter, girls should change into socks if they wear tights.

All school clothing and personal possessions should be clearly marked with the child's name.

Printed labels for sewing are available from local suppliers.

Summer hats with the school logo can be purchased from the school. We recommend these for the protection of children in the playground during the hot summer months.

## **Jewellery**

For reasons of safety children do not wear jewellery to school with the exception of a crucifix and a sensible watch. No earrings may be worn, as these can be hazardous during P.E. lessons (no allowance will be made for recently pierced ears).

## **Absences**

Whenever possible it will be greatly appreciated if parents can telephone the school with details concerning a pupil's absence as soon as possible. This helps us to ascertain the safe whereabouts of all our children. Please inform the class teacher by letter on the child's return to school.

It would be appreciated if dental and medical appointments could be made out of school hours wherever possible.

Permission for absence for holidays or other events during term time will only be granted under exceptional circumstances. A request for such absence must be made in writing at least six weeks in advance. Any absences apart from unavoidable circumstances, e.g. medical reasons will be recorded as unapproved absence.

## **Tummy Upsets**

Should your child suffer from any sickness/upset tummy, he/she must be clear for at least 48 hours before returning to school.

## Medicines

Medicines prescribed by a doctor are the only ones that can be administered in school. These will be administered at lunchtime only. They must be in a named container holding the measured dose for the child, and must be brought in (and the empty container collected) by an adult. No medicines will be collected from, or containers given back to children. Parents should give inhalers or Epi-pens to the teacher to have them available for the child.

If your child has an accident at school an information slip will be sent home to advise you of the treatment given. We will endeavour to notify you if it is necessary for your child be taken to A & E, who now charge for such a consultation. There may also be a charge for ambulance use (in excess of £100) so we strongly recommend family membership of St. John's Ambulance Service.

## Lunches

A strong named container should be provided. In summer it might be advisable to include a cool pack to keep food fresh.

Please try to provide your children with food packets that they can open independently. Suggestions for contents:-

Sandwiches or crispbread  
 Fruit or yoghurt  
 Small bag of crisps or biscuits  
 Carton of juice or a drink in an unbreakable container  
 No sweets

**No nuts or sesame seeds**  
 as we have a pupil who has a severe allergy to nut products.

A named sports bottle containing water should be kept in class to prevent the children from becoming dehydrated and to aid concentration. They should be taken home and washed every day. Children can bring in a piece of fruit that is ready to eat for their playtime break in the morning.

We believe that learning is most effective when it takes place in the context of a happy relationship between children, staff and parents and in a stimulating environment. Together we can achieve this.

### *Unity*

*I dreamed I stood in a studio and watched two sculptors there,*

*The clay they used was a young child's mind and they fashioned it with care.*

*One was a teacher; the tools she used were books and music and art;*

*One was a parent with a guiding hand and a loving heart.*

*And when at last their work was done they were proud of what they had wrought*

*For the things they had worked into the child could never be sold or bought.*

*And each agreed she would have failed if she had worked alone*

*For behind the parent stood the school, and behind the teacher stood a home.*

*by Ray A. Lingenfelter*