Tapestry – An Online Learning Journal

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year we are going to be using 'Tapestry', an online platform, to assess our children's development which has been a very successful tool in providing up to date information about their learning to parents as well as a fantastic way to show footage of all the exciting things they get up to at school.

Tapestry is a website which can be accessed on a computer or laptop, and also on any Apple or Android device such as a tablet or smart phone. We have chosen this company because it is secure and also an exciting way of keeping track of your child's development and their time with us. Many preschools and nurseries also use this system and you should be able to access those records alongside their school observations.

As observations are loaded for your child you will then receive an email (or push notification on the app) to alert you that something new has been added to your child's Learning Journal so you can then log on and view what your child has been up to. A massive advantage of this system is that you can instantly add your own comments to entries and can show your child's online journal to members of the family who would not usually be able to see their Learning Scrapbooks at school. (We are continuing to keep the Learning Scrapbooks alongside the online system but they will not contain everything as in previous years!)

The safeguarding of our children is very important to us. Everything that is added to Tapestry will be added to our school account and can only be viewed by staff who use the system, and also yourself, using your own personal log in. You will only have access to your individual child's journal, which cannot be seen by other parents. Also it is **crucial** that you do not share photos or videos from your child's journal on social media or through other online platforms. Any incidents where this confidentiality is broken will be dealt with very seriously and will result in your access to the system being withdrawn.

Overleaf you will find some Frequently Asked Questions about the system, please take time to read through before you start. More information can also be found on their website at http://tapestry.info

If you have any further questions please come and see us after school.

Many thanks,

The EYFS team

Frequently Asked Questions

Why use an online system?
Hand writing observations, printing out photos, cutting out and sticking all of these into a paper book is very time consuming. By taking photos and videos that can be instantly uploaded increases the time that staff can spend with your children, supporting their learning.

We love the way in which parents can instantly see what their child has been up to and can also share it with other family members. Not only this but it provides an opportunity for you to comment on the observations and add your own photos/videos from home too.

How do I get onto the system?

Tapestry can be accessed online on a computer or laptop at:
https://tapestryjournal.com

Alternatively you can download it as a free app on any Apple or Android devices once you have activated your account. The updated app is now called 'Tapestry 2'.

We will ask you to provide us with an email address so that we can set you up a personal account. This will be a secure way of logging in and you will only be able to see your own child's journal. Please check your 'junk' folder for the activation email if you haven't noticed it in your inbox.

I don't have a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone. How can I access Tapestry?
If you are unable to access the Internet on any device at home, then you will still be able to access your child's journal at school where we will provide you with access to your child's account and support you to use it if needed. Access can be given when mutually convenient at the end of the day.

I am not very confident with computers or the Internet. How can I access Tapestry?
One of the reasons for us choosing Tapestry was ease of use. It is a very easy system to use, but should you have any problems we will be more than happy to support you.

Why do you need my email address?
Your email address is required in order to set you up with access to your child's account. It is to ensure security on the site and also so that we can email you when a new entry has been added for your child.

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Permission Form

Child's Name:_____

Please sign below to agree to the following statements:

- I give permission for an online Tapestry Learning Journal to be created and maintained for my child.

- I give permission for my child's photo to appear in any group photos used in Learning Journals.

- I agree not to share, by social media or other platforms, any part of my child's Learning Journal.

Signed _____

Date _____

In order for us to set up your user account to access your child's learning journal, please provide the following details:

Relationship to child: _____

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Email address: _____