

Reception Autumn Term Newsletter



Welcome to Reception! I hope you had a great summer holiday, it is lovely to see the children excited to be at school. A special welcome to all the new children starting in Reception. Don't they all look smart in their uniforms? They all look so big and grown up!

I would like to share with you some important information about the routines in Reception:

Book share

Book share is on a **Friday** morning between 8.55am and 9.10am when parents are invited into the class to read a book with their child. It helps to develop a love of stories and reading, which will, in turn, have an impact upon their writing. **Book share will start for Reception when the children have settled. We will put up a poster to advertise the first session.**

Show and tell

Each **Friday** we have Show and tell which is an opportunity for children to bring in one item from home that they would like to show to the class, eg, a toy, photos, books. This type of activity develops their language skills and raises confidence levels. Please encourage them not to bring anything too big or expensive. As you can appreciate there is limited space and we do not want any broken or missing items!

Library

On **Wednesday**, we will visit the school library where your child will choose a book to bring home and share with you. This book is not for them to learn to read, but to develop their enjoyment of books. The children choose books which interest them, so they may pick information or fictional books. In order for this to be changed regularly,

please ensure your child brings it to school on a **Wednesday**.

Homework

The homework set for Reception will reinforce the learning from the week and usually includes a literacy and a numeracy task. It will be sent home on a **Thursday** and collected the following **Monday**. The children will also be bringing home a home pack. In it will be a list of the key words they need to learn, a number line, a hundred square and a handwriting sheet to show how we are learning to form our letters and numbers. This pack should be used at home for support with homework and learning. Homework will be sent out once the children are in school full time.

Your child will also soon be bringing home a book to read with you and this will be changed as regularly as possible. To help us know if the book has been read at home, a short comment in the yellow reading record would be appreciated.

P.E and Uniform

A waterproof coat with a hood must be brought in everyday as we have a free-flow indoor/outdoor environment during the day even in cold, wet weather. Children can also bring wellington boots to wear when outside. These can be kept in school.

Could we please ask that your child wears shoes that are easy to put on and take off. Shoes need to be enclosed so that the toes are covered. Shoes with Velcro are ideal. This allows them to develop their independent dressing and undressing skills.

Children need to have a PE kit in school, which consists of the school t-shirt, trainers, black shorts and track-suit bottoms for cold weather. The t-shirt can be purchased from the school office.

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

General Information

- ◇ Children should have a named water bottle in school every day. It should be still, natural water. Drinking water helps children stay hydrated which aids concentration.
- ◇ Children must not wear jewellery to school for safety reasons, especially necklaces and bracelets. If they have earrings in please ensure they are studs. Earrings must be removed on PE days.
- ◇ If your child has long hair, please ensure they tie it back so that it doesn't get in the way of any activities.
- ◇ If someone new will be picking your child up, please inform staff.
- ◇ If your child needs medication or inhalers please bring them into school as soon as possible and please make it known to staff if children are allergic to any foods or are vegetarian.

Reception Weekly Routines

Monday	Homework due in	Children should have their reading books and reading records in school every day.
Tuesday		
Wednesday	Library books	
Thursday	PE Homework given out	
Friday	Book Share Show and Tell	

If anyone can spare some time to come and listen to readers or help in anyway in Reception, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see me if you can help.

If you have any questions about the above information please come and ask.

Mrs Daheley, Reception Class Teacher. Mrs Acheson, Nursery nurse, Ms. Khanam, Nursery Nurse

Topics this term:

The topics for this term are 'All about me' and 'Festivals and Celebrations'. These topics lend themselves particularly well to the learning areas of creative development, understanding of the world, mathematical and physical development. The children will be finding out about their bodies, asking questions, investigating and exploring objects and materials. There are some ideas how you can help below.

All About Me

Out and about

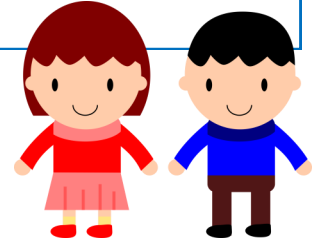
- Listen to birds singing in your garden. What other sounds can you hear outside?
- Try practising throwing and catching games with small and large balls.
- Go on a senses walk. Visit the local park or go to the shops. Choose one sense to concentrate on such as sight or smell.

Stories and songs

- Visit the local library.
- Have fun singing 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes'
- Make up stories about a superhero with heightened senses

At home

- Play hide and seek
- Keep a diary of favourite tastes and smells etc
- Play guessing games, ie, what is red, round and tastes sweet and is full of pips? (a tomato)



Making

- Explore how many senses you can use as you do some cooking together. Let them help you make lunch or something like beans on toast.
- Help your child make their favourite sandwich.

Talking

- Encourage your child to talk about using their senses at home as you share a meal, get ready for bed, listen to a story or play a game.

Festivals and Celebrations



Talking

- Talk about what you celebrate as a family. If you have photographs of your birthdays, Christmas, Easter, weddings or parties share these with your children.

Making

- Make thank you cards or birthday cards.
- Wrap a box to make present.

Stories and songs

- Visit the local library to look for non-fiction books about festivals and celebrations from around the world.
- Sing songs relating to festivals e.g. "This little light of mine" and "Happy Birthday"

Out and about

- Look at the variety of places where people worship in the local area live. Help your child to notice the difference between the buildings.

In the kitchen

- Make biscuits in the shape of fireworks or Christmas trees. Involve them in measuring out and mixing the ingredients. Use icing to decorate and make features such as windows and doors.

