

## Reception Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2017

A very warm welcome to Reception! It is a big step in your child's life to start full-time school and we are really looking forward to helping make it a very happy and enjoyable experience. We want to find out as much as possible about your child's interests so that we can provide experiences for them that are really engaging. Many thanks if you have already returned your child's 'Getting to know you' booklet - if you haven't yet done so please return it as soon as possible. This term our first exciting topic is

### Will you be my friend?

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Becoming part of a new class is an opportunity to make lots of new friends. We will be encouraging the children to get to know one another - remember each other's names and how to be a good friend. We will also help them learn to recognise different emotions and as part of this they will complete the emotional check-many thanks for your support with this already. It really helps us to support the children well if we know how they are feeling each day.



#### Communication and Language

Your child will be developing their listening skills and learning the four basic rules for good listening at school:

1. Look at the person who is talking.
2. Sit still.
3. Keep quiet.
4. Listen to all the words.



We will explore lots of talking activities in pairs and small groups. New vocabulary will be part of everyday learning.

#### Physical Development

In PE the children will be learning to play traditional playground games which we hope they will put to good use at lunchtimes!. P.E will be on Thursdays. Please ensure that your child has their P.E kit in school every week and that it is clearly named. In the classroom there will be lots of opportunities for children to develop their fine motor skills for writing.



#### Literacy

The children will be involved in lots of shared reading and storytelling. In phonics they will be learning to recognise letters and blending them to read words. In the next couple of weeks they will start to bring home the speed sounds they are learning each week.



## Mathematics



This term we will be practising lots of counting, playing number games and learning number songs. We will also be looking at aspects of space, shape and measure such as capacity and length.

## Understanding the World

As part of our topic 'Will you be my friend' we will be looking at

- Similarities and differences between ourselves and others
- Families and friends
- What makes us all special

## Expressive Arts and Design



We will be encouraging the children to make up their own rhythms and songs, move in different ways and express themselves through music, dance and role play. We will be learning lots and lots of songs as part of our daily routine.

### What can I do to help/enhance my child's learning this term?

- At first your child may feel very tired after a busy day at school - the morning routine that you support them with is only a small part of all the things they need to remember to do! We will be sending home a note to keep you informed about what is happening in class each week.
- Please encourage your child to use a knife and fork at mealtimes as it is a tricky skill that needs lots of practise.
- Reading stories with your child regularly is always a fantastic way to develop their language and storytelling skills. Encourage them to join in with familiar and repeated sections of the story and ask them questions about what has happened in the story. We will send home a library book each week - if you would like to change it more frequently you are welcome to do so - please speak to us.
- Once your child starts to bring home their speed sounds please help them to practise saying these sounds quickly.
- We will be holding a Reception Parents Reading Meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm to explain how we teach children to read at our school. We hope you can join us.

We are really looking forward to working with you and your child. If you have any questions about anything please come and talk to us - our door is always open ☺

*Mrs Burrell, Mrs Bendelow and Mrs Wilson*