

Reception Newsletter - Autumn 1 2018



A very warm welcome to Reception! What a lovely first few days we've had. It's a big step in your child's life to start full-time school and we're really looking forward to making it a very happy and enjoyable experience. To help this happen we want to find out as much as possible about your child's interests so we can provide experiences for them that are really engaging - the About Me bags and little booklets have been really helpful - the children have enjoyed sharing them in class and getting to know more about each other. Many thanks if you've already sent them in - if not, please do so as soon as possible. Additionally, could we please ask you to send in a family photo for us to photocopy and display in the children's home corner? - they love sharing and talking about their families.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Becoming part of a new class is an opportunity to make lots of new friends. We'll be encouraging the children to get to know one another, remember each other's names and learn how to be a good friend. We'll also help them learn to recognise different emotions and as part of this they'll 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 at the beginning of each day.



Communication and Language

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

Look at the person who is talking.

Sit still.

Keep quiet.

Listen to all the words.

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



Physical Development

PE will be on Tuesdays for Mrs Burrell's class and Wednesdays for Miss Markendale's class. Our PE sessions will focus on balance and co-ordination. Additionally, the children will take part in lots of activities in the classroom to help develop their fine motor skills.

Mathematics

This term we will be practising lots of counting, playing number games and learning number rhymes.



Literacy

We'll be starting our 'Book of the Week' shortly to focus on developing comprehension skills. In the next couple of weeks we'll also begin our daily phonics sessions. The children will learn to recognise letters and start blending them to read words.

Understanding the World

We'll be looking at
Similarities and differences between ourselves and others
Families and friends
What makes us all special

Reception Library - Books and Games

We're opening up a library for our Reception children to borrow books and counting/literacy games. The games will provide practise for early literacy and maths skills as well as those important skills of taking turns and learning to win and lose. This will be starting on Monday 10th September. The library will be organised as follows:

Mon-Fri: Book Library (borrow a book on Mon, return on Fri)

Fri-Mon: Games Library (borrow a game on Fri, return on Mon) etc

Please help your child to take good care of the books and games.

How can you help?

- Send in a family photo that we can photocopy and display in the children's home corner
- Ensure your child gets into the habit of bringing their red book bag to school every day.
- Read regular stories to your child
- Encourage your child to play the games they borrow from the Games Library
- Please encourage your child to use a knife and fork at mealtimes as it is a tricky skill that needs lots of practise.
- We'll be holding our first Parents Reading Meeting to share ideas on how you can support your child as they learn to read. This will be held on Tuesday 18th September at 2.30pm. We hope you can join us.

We're in the process of setting up a new online system for Early Years where we'll be able to share your child's experiences at school with you. We expect this to be up and running in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, if you have any queries please don't hesitate to pop in and see us or drop us a little note if that's easier.

We look forward to working with you this year,
Mrs Burrell, Miss Markendale, Mrs Bendelow, Miss Bryan and Miss Wilson