

Reception Autumn Term Newsletter

A huge warm welcome to our Reception Class. It has been lovely meeting you all and the Reception Class team are very excited about the wonderful and exciting year we all have ahead of us!

What to expect from this term

The first few weeks of Autumn term will be focused primarily around settling your children as well as building secure relationships with them. We want your children to feel happy, safe and comfortable in their new environment. We will spend plenty of time adjusting to school life and routines, getting to know your children and you too. We encourage and value strong communication between school and home, so if you ever have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Throughout the term children will begin learning how to apply a variety of phonetic skills to their early ready and mark making through stories, topics and discrete phonics teaching. Alongside developing key maths mastery skills in numbers across 0-10. Other areas of learning will include peeking into the past (developing sense of changes over time), exploring different styles of mark making, developing an understanding of seasonal changes and all about me.

Forest School

Forest School will happen once a week and will take place on a Thursday morning. Please send children to school in appropriate home clothes such as long legged bottoms and long sleeved tops. Layers are encouraged to adapt to suitable weather and clothes you do not mind the children getting messy. Children will also need a waterproof jacket, trousers and wellies. Please send uniforms into school for children to change into after the Forest School session. Forest School will start on Thursday 19th September 2024.

PE

PE lessons will take place every Tuesday afternoon. PE kits will be kept at school during term time and sent home per half term to be washed. Children will get dressed for PE at school. Please send your children's kits into school during the first couple of weeks of starting school. Our first PE lesson will take place on Tuesday 17th September 2024.

Communication

Luckily, and for most of us, we will see each other daily at drop off and pick up so any key messages from the day will be shared with you when necessary. However, for more generic class information such as trips, emails will be sent out as well as updates on the school newsletter. Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

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Reading/ Homework

Reading books will be sent home within the first couple of full-time school weeks. There is some additional support on reading at home provided within your child's bookbag. Initially storybooks and picture books will be sent home however as your child becomes more confident with their phonics, decodable books will follow. At times these books may seem challenging for your child, but this gives a great opportunity for adult modelling. Please try your best to read with your child as much as possible – 5-10 minutes a day can make a huge difference in the long run. Quality of reading time over quantity of reading time is crucial in the early stages.

There will be no homework as such however each Friday flashcards of sounds taught that week will be sent home for your child to practise, again a quick daily practise of these can make a huge difference.

There will also be a phonics information evening on Thursday 19th September at 3:45pm.

Food and Drink

Please send your child in with a labelled water bottle which will freely be accessible to them throughout the day.

-Milk and Snack is provided for the children everyday. Milk is free for children under 5 and once they are 5 if you wish for your child to continue having milk, please register them at www.coolmilk.com

-Children are entitled to free school lunches which includes hot dinners or packed lunch. Please speak to admin with any concerns over this.

Please keep us update on any dietary requirements and/or allergies.

Your Child's Progress

Communication between home and school life is of tremendous value to us throughout your child's journey particularly during the Early Years. Your children's learning and exploration will take place continuously in a huge variety of contexts and at different paces. Therefore, we feel it is vital that we share their progress with you throughout the year. Each half term key observations and next steps will be shared with you via our tracking programme known as Arc Pathways. This will give you a greater insight into your child's learning taking place at school but will also give you guidance on how you can support children in reaching their next steps. The number of observations will differ at different times throughout the year as they are used to reflect your child's personal and authentic learning journey. A parent's telephone consultation will take place the week beginning Monday 14th October and more information about this will follow closer the time.

Volunteers

If anyone has any spare time and would like to join us in school to support with readers and/or help with other projects such as crafts, cooking or gardening then please do get in touch. This can include grandparents too. We are also in the process of freshening up our outdoor area if anyone has any skills in making some simple outdoor furniture/toys/planters please do get in touch!

Word of Safety

Please note that should you need someone else to pick your child up you MUST notify school as soon as possible.