

Reception Class Autumn Newsletter

Welcome to Reception Class. We hope that you had a great summer and you are ready for an exciting year ahead!



Here are some important things for you to know

PE:

Our PE lessons during the Autumn term will be gymnastics. We are lucky enough to have a session each week with Catherine, our gymnastics coach. These sessions will take place on Tuesday afternoons. Your child will **come to school dressed for PE** every Tuesday. Children **will not** get changed into their PE kits in school. Hair should also be tied back. There will be many opportunities for your child to engage in other physical activities, both gross and fine motor, daily.

Water Bottles:

We ask that your child brings a water bottle to drink from each day. This should contain unflavored, still water only and should have your child's name on. The bottle should be a sports cap bottle that your child can easily open. Your child can drink from this throughout the day.

Arriving at school:

The school gates will open each morning from **8:45**. Our classroom door will be open from this time and we will be ready and waiting to welcome your child.

If your child arrives after **8:55**, they will have to enter school via the school office and they will be marked as 'late' in the register.



Spare Clothes:

As toilet accidents sometimes happen, and we enjoy lots of water play and messy activities, spare clothes are essential. Please send your child to school with a carrier bag containing spare underwear and uniform (or plain t-shirt and jogging bottoms) in case of emergencies. We will then transfer these items into a named school bag that will be kept on your child's hook. Please send these items of clothing into school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Home Time:

Please collect your child at **3:30**. When collecting your child please wait on the playground just outside of our garden area. If there is a change as to who is collecting your child, please let myself or the school office know. Your child will not be able to leave if we have not been informed of any changes. I will bring the children to the gate and dismiss them to you directly on the playground. This may take a while at the beginning of the year but please bear with us. If you need to speak to myself or another staff member, please do not hesitate to do so. We are always happy to talk. However, please wait until all children have been collected so that all of our attention can be on the children. Alternatively, ring the school office and we can arrange an appointment for either a phone call or a meeting. Thank you in advance.



Earrings:

Please ensure that your child does not wear earrings to school. If you have any questions about this, please see me.

Weather:

Please ensure that you send your child to school prepared for all weather. Coats should be brought to school every day.

Read Write Inc.:

We use Read Write Inc. Phonics to teach children how to read and write. Our Read Write Inc. lessons will begin straight away. More information about Read Write Inc. and ways that you can support your child will be discussed at the Reception Class Parent's Meeting (details to follow). In the meantime, watch the following videos to give you an insight on what we will be getting up to.

What is Read Write Inc. Phonics? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjlPILhk7bQ>

How to say the sounds <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

Reading:

Very soon your child will begin visiting our infant library. Your child will bring home one book per week to share and enjoy with those at home. In due course, your child will also bring home a reading scheme book. This will be when your child is independently reading CVC words. Throughout the year your child will also bring home a weekly reading challenge. Your child will enjoy stories and rhymes throughout the day at school and we do hope your child will engage in story times at home, preferably daily. Reading with your child is probably the most important thing that you can do to support and extend your child's learning. This should be a special time of your day, each day. **More information**

about reading and its importance will be shared at our meeting.



Practising skills at home:

Your child will learn lots of new things and will acquire new skills at school. It would be useful if you could practise some of the following at home:

Independently dressing and undressing, using a knife and fork, using the toilet and washing hands independently, putting on and taking off a coat and jumper, holding a pencil using a tripod grip and beginning to make marks with good control, name writing, counting objects and saying one number name for each object, recognising numbers 1-5 then 10, finding different ways to represent numbers e.g. 3 bananas, 3 fingers, 3 people, the numeral 3 etc.

As your child learns new things I will inform you of other activities that you can do at home to support their learning.

Homework:

Each week your child will bring home a newsletter. This newsletter will share updates and fill you in on what we have been doing each week (we know children don't always share this with parents!) and it will also contain simple home learning tasks. Some of these tasks will be short practical activities, some recorded activities inside your child's homework folder and others online using the platform, Purple Mash. Information about Purple Mash along with

Friday Snack:

Your child will receive fruit as a snack every afternoon. On Fridays your child can choose to bring in **one** special treat for their snack e.g. chocolate, crisps or biscuit etc. **Sweets, lolly pops and products containing nuts (including Nutella) are not permitted.**

Reception Baseline Assessment:

There are two important assessments that take place during the Reception year. The first one, the Reception Baseline Assessment, takes place during the first 6 weeks of your child joining school. This assesses your child's starting point. These assessments have already started taking place. The EYFS Profile, completed in the final term in Reception, assesses whether your child has made age related expectations or whether they are working below these. More information about the RBA will be sent to you by email.

Reception Class Staff:

Mrs Holdbrook - Class Teacher

Mrs Dehgamia - Class Teaching Assistant (full time)

Mrs Bax - Class Teaching Assistant (PM)

Mrs Ismail - Support Assistant (AM)

Mrs Khan - Support Assistant (AM)

Mrs Nesbitt - Support Assistant (PM)

Mrs Brown (Fridays only) - SENCO

On Fridays, Mrs Dehgamia will lead the class with the support of Mrs Brown as I am not in school. There are quite a few members of staff in Reception but some of these only work in the classroom part time.

We are all very excited about the year ahead. If you would like to discuss anything further, please **Mrs Holdbrook** do not hesitate to get in touch.