

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

Welcome! We hope you have had a great summer and are ready to start the new school year. This term our theme will be '**Once Upon My Story**' and we are excited to welcome all your children into school and look forward to getting to know them better. They have been amazing and have settled so well into school life.

Thank you so much for encouraging your child to line up by the gate and come in independently. All our Teaching Assistants, Mrs Ayers (Donaldson), Mrs Sperti (Ahlberg) and Mrs Goodwright (Rosen), are always on hand to help settle your child into the classroom if required.

We also need your child to be able to put their own coat on and off, and to practice taking their jumpers, cardigans and shoes on and off too. Please encourage your child you get dressed and undressed independently at home to support this skill. As we say, practice makes it permanent.

Uniform and Personal belongings

Please note that all your child's belongings including all uniform items, jumpers, cardigans, trainers, coats, book bags, etc., **MUST** be clearly labelled, so that your child is able to identify their property independently. If items are not labelled, it is very difficult for us to keep track of items and stop any being misplaced. Please make sure you check daily for this.

PE

We will be doing **PE on a Friday**. Please ensure your child is wearing the appropriate active wear uniform at all times. Also, note that as part of the school's PE Policy, hooped earrings and other jewellery must not be worn. The children will also have access to Bike ability session on a Monday.

Spare clothes

As you are aware accidents and learning through play with mud and water happen regularly in a Reception class. Could we please ask you to keep a set of labelled spare clothes in school, including trainers/wellies if possible?

Water bottles and Snack

Please can you provide daily, a named plastic water bottle to use throughout the day, (no juice or squash). You may also want to send your child with an extra drink for lunchtime in their lunch box, if having packed lunches. We will also provide your child with a morning snack of fresh fruit which they will access independently during the morning. If you have signed up to Cool Milk, then your child will also have a carton of milk to drink. If you would like to register for milk, please go to www.coolmilk.com.

Welly Walks and Outdoor Learning

Your child will need to bring a pair of named wellies to be left in school by next Monday. We will go on our welly walks every other week and the children will have access to our outdoor area throughout the day, every day, no matter the weather. Please ensure they have a coat, appropriate for the weather every day, as we would hate for your child to miss out from any learning opportunity, if not dressed appropriately. Also, remember they will be getting muddy and wet, which is all part of their learning! 😊

Reading

This term we will be sending home a picture book from our **Fifty Reads** for Reception children. It is expected that the children share and discuss this book with an adult in order to develop their love for reading and reading skills. This will be sent out on a Friday and must be returned on a Monday.

Phonics decodable books: Once your child can blend orally in our phonics lessons, we will send a phonics book to practise at home. We expect your child to read a minimum of **three times a week** and for you to record this in their Reading Record. We will change your child's book once they are able to read it fluently. We will also be counting reads on a weekly basis to reward your child for regular reading.

Learning Journey

At school we record your child's learning in our online journal called Tapestry. You will receive a letter explaining this in more detail followed by an email to activate your account early next week. Every term, you will be invited to come into school and share your child's learning and achievements. These sessions will be held over a 3-day period after school. We will send a booking slot sheet, nearer the time. Once you have come in to share their Learning Journey, we will release their observations for you to look at them with more detail at home.

We also encourage you to add at least one 'WOW Moment' observation a term that happens at home. This could be related to any sport or hobby, physical or academic learning development. Children are full of wow moments, and we would love to be part of those learning steps at home too.

RBA

As you may be aware, the Government introduced a national Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) which is statutory as of this September.

What is the baseline?

The reception baseline assessment (RBA) is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they start school in reception. It is statutory for all schools from September 2021. The purpose of the baseline is to provide the starting point for a new measure to identify how well a school supports their pupils to progress between reception and year 6.

What does it mean for my child?

Every child in reception will take part in the baseline assessment with a trained member of the reception team. This will be a qualified teacher. It is anticipated that each session will take approximately 20 minutes, depending on each individual child. The RBA is not about judging your child or putting them under any pressure. Your child cannot 'pass' or 'fail' the RBA.

When will the baselines take place?

As a school we must ensure that all baseline assessments are completed within the first six weeks of your child starting in Reception.

Do I need to do anything to prepare my child?

No, you do not need to do anything. As mentioned above, this is a very informal process for your child, and it is used to measure their individual starting point. It is very unlikely that your child will even know that they are taking part in an assessment.

Dates for your diary:

Parents, what to expect when in Reception: 29th September 2:30 pm

Phonics Parent Workshop: 4th October 9:00 am

Tapestry Sharing Sessions: 11th, 12th and 13th October after school

Parents Evening: 18th and 19th October

Broomsticks and Potions Days: 18th, 19th and 20th October.

Half Term: Thursday 21st October to Monday 1st November.

For any other dates please see the school website regularly for updates and photos.

Finally, please remember that if you have any questions, feel free to contact us by sending an email to the school office or you can catch us at the end of the day. Let's hope for a great first term!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Ambrose, Miss Webb, Miss Murray and the Early Years Team.



don't just fly
SOAR

Communication and Language Development

We will be learning to take turns to speak and listen to our peers with attention and recall. 'Talking Partners' will be introduced to make this process more effective. Learn to follow instructions effectively during whole class activities and individually. Listen to stories with the increasing ability to talk about characters and events accurately. Develop the ability to answer why and how questions by using full sentences when answering, a range of tenses and in the correct order. Use language that represents their breath of experiences through Role play, child and adult led activities.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be learning about our classroom 'Golden Rules' and how to adapt behaviour to different events, social situations and changes in routine. To understand our feelings and to form good relationships with peers and all the adults in school.

We learn most of our PSED goals through our circle times and Jigsaw scheme. Our theme will be 'Being Me in My World'. It explores feelings, how to be a good friend, my likes and dislikes, amongst some of the topics. Our Value this term is Kindness.

Mathematics

This term we will focus on numbers 1-5 to master all of the concepts in relation to the number system; such as, cardinality, subitising, conservation of number, 1:1 correspondence. To understand and reason why a number is and why is not and use mathematical language to explain it. We will learn to represent numbers in different forms and media. Use number names in rhymes and stories and meet The Numberblocks. Estimate numbers and understand more and fewer to compare two sets.

Names of all 2D shapes and awareness of them in the environment and recreate patterns. Explore positional language, height and length using simple language to compare 2 or 3 objects.

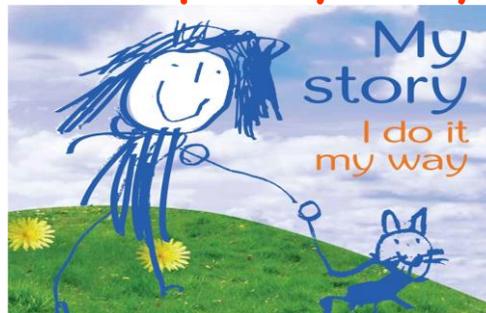
Physical Development

We will explore how our bodies move through turning, rolling, jumping, hopping, and sliding. We will focus on how our bodies change when we exercise.

We will have focused fine motor skills sessions during the week, where we will exercise our fingers, hands, arms and shoulders to help us become fantastic writers in the future. This will be through our Dough Disco sessions and Squiggle whilst you wiggle. As well as bike balance sessions.

Reception Autumn Term 2021

Once upon my story!



Expressive Arts and Design

Art

We will be exploring colour and how to change it. Painting self-portraits, autumn pictures, our creations in the 'Tinkering Lab' and many more activities.

Music

We will be exploring how to make sounds using the body e.g. clapping, tapping, and using our voices etc. As well as experimenting with the percussion instruments.

Literacy

Writing

We will be learning to give meaning to marks we make and practise writing some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, by writing our name, labels, etc. We will learn to break the flow of speech into words, continue a rhyming string, hearing, saying and attempting to write the initial sound in words.

Reading

We will be listening to Traditional tales and Nursery Rhymes. Joining in with repeated refrains, by showing awareness of rhyme and alliteration, anticipating key events and phrases in rhymes and stories through our shared reading sessions. We will start developing the awareness of the way stories are structured by describing main story settings, events and principal characters.

Understanding the World

This and next term will be learning about the season of Autumn through our 'Welly Walks'. Talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.

We will be learning about ourselves, exploring our five senses, what our bodies are made of and how we have changed since we were born

We will explore all of our ICT equipment, computers, ipads, cameras, Beebots, Interactive White Board, etc.

People and Communities and Religious Education

This term we will be exploring the key question 'Where do we belong?' In this unit we will discuss the idea that each person is unique and valuable. Christian beliefs about Jesus believing children to be very special. Discuss how God's love for children is shown in Christianity through infant baptism, into Islam Aqiqah ceremony, whispering of the Shahdah and cutting of hair and Hindus celebrating Rakshan Bandhan - which celebrates the special bond between brothers and sisters. We will also celebrate Harvest Festival.

