



## Parents and Carers Information Leaflet – Autumn 1 Year Reception

Class Teacher – Miss Galvin

Teaching Assistant – Miss Brashko

### Dear Parents and Carers

#### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to a new term and new academic year; I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

#### Important Dates:

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September** - Reception Parent Curriculum Meeting at 3.00pm

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September** - Reception parent workshop – Tapestry and reading records at 2.45pm - 3.30pm

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November** - Parents' Evening at 3.45pm – 5.45pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** - Parents' Evening at 3.45pm – 5.45pm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December** - Nativity Performance at 9.30am and 2.00pm



#### Attendance and Punctuality

It is important that children arrive at school by 8.55, as registers are taken and checked first thing and any absences chased up by the office staff. Remember to call and let us know if your child is going to be absent for any reason so we can record this in the register.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of attendance and punctuality. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people maximise their learning potential and have the best opportunities in adult life.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

Arriving **5 minutes** late every day adds up to over **3 days** lost each year.

Arriving **15 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **2 weeks** a year.

Arriving **30 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **19 days** a year.

### General Information

#### PE:

This half-term, Year R will have P.E. on Tuesdays. On days that children have P.E. lessons scheduled, they are asked to come into school wearing their P.E. kit. They will remain in their kit for the whole day.

#### Homework:

Homework is set on a Friday and should be returned to school the following Wednesday. Children will be set Reading, Phonics and Mathematics homework each week. It is important that your child completes their homework in order to support their learning in class and to ensure that they make good progress throughout the year. Thank you for your support in this. If you would like advice on supporting your child with homework, please see your class teacher.

Please read with your child daily. Children should aim to read at home for **at least 10 minutes per day**.

#### Belongings:

Please label all belongings with a permanent marker, and ensure that your child has their book bag with them every day (book bags are available to buy from the school office).

### Curriculum Overviews

#### English and Communication and Language

This term we will begin to learn all the sounds in the English language. The children will also learn the alphabet and how to form letters. They will be encouraged to use mark making for many different purposes during choosing activities as well as in adult led and child initiated activities. The children will practise their speaking, listening and

understanding skills during class discussions and story time.

**Things to do at home...**

Continue to work with your child on writing their name, using a capital letter only for the initial letter.

**Phonics:** Over the coming weeks we will be introducing the children to Phase 2 of Letters and Sounds. The children will be introduced to one letter sound a day over 4 days of the week, with revision on the 5<sup>th</sup> day.

**Things to do at home...**

Play phonics games with your child (e.g: looking for sounds they know in words, quick fire flashcards with letters, guessing the first sound in words).

Here is a website with phonics activities you could play with your child:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

**Personal, social and emotional development**

The children are settling into a new environment and are establishing new relationships. An emphasis will be placed on developing sharing and listening skills and an awareness of their own and others' needs. This will be done throughout the day and during special circle time sessions. The children will also be learning about the Golden Rules and how they are expected to behave around the school and in the classroom.

**Physical development**

The children will be focusing on gymnastics and dance this term. They will make simple shapes with their bodies and travel on their feet in a variety of ways. They will begin to recognise repeated sounds and sound patterns and match movements to music. The children will participate in fine motor skill activities such as threading, modelling and using tools throughout the learning environment.

**Things to do at home...**

Encourage your child to dress themselves and to use cutlery at meal times independently. Play throwing and catching games with your child to develop their hand to eye co-ordination.

**Handwriting:** Children will be introduced to dots, straight lines and crosses, circles, waves, loops and bridges, joined straight lines angled patterns and spirals. We will also, look at left-to-right orientation when writing.

As the term progresses we will practise forming capital and lower case letters correctly.

**Mathematics:**

**Counting and calculating:**

The children will be learning to use numbers up to 10 confidently. They will be encouraged to say number names in order and to count out groups of objects.

Children will begin to write and calculate simple addition and subtraction calculations.

**Things to do at home...**

Sing number rhymes with your child and practise counting numbers to 10 and beyond. Practise counting up to 10 objects. Find numbers around the environment with your child (e.g: bus numbers, door numbers, TV channel ...)

**Measure and sorting :**

The children will be measuring objects to see which is the longest and shortest. They will also be learning about time and daily routines.

**Things to do at home...**

At home look around and compare objects to see which is longer and which is shorter.

**Shape:**

The children will be learning to recognise and name a variety of 2D shapes.

**Things to do at home...**

Can your child spot shapes when out and about. (What shape is the wheel on a car?, their favourite book?, etc.)

Practise drawing people at home. Encourage your child to include all parts of the body and facial features. Ask your child to look in a mirror and draw what they see.

**Reading:** Children will have daily Guided Reading lessons. They will read with an adult at least once a week, and will participate in a range of activities to help develop their word reading and comprehension skills, as well as promoting a love of reading for pleasure.

### **Understanding the world**

Our first class topic will be 'Ourselves'. During this topic we will learn about each other and about our bodies. We will look at our five senses and use these to investigate the world around us. Past and present will be looked at as we talk about our lives and what we were like as babies.

Our second class topic will be 'Festivals'. We will think about festivals that we celebrate and learn about festivals celebrated in other cultures. We will learn about the Nativity story and how we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

### **Things to do at home...**

Play senses games. What can your child see, hear, taste, smell and feel? Discuss words to describe things (for example: this is *soggy*, this is *tangy*).

### **Computing: (Technology)**

Children will use the the interactive whiteboard to learn basic computer skills and to support learning in other areas. Children will also begin to learn basic mouse and keyboard skills.

### **Expressive arts and design**

The children will be exploring a range of techniques to produce 2D and 3D art. They will learn to use a variety of materials and tools effectively on a small and large scale. Children will have daily opportunities to engage in imaginative play through drama, puppets, small world play, dressing up and activities in the role play areas.

During music they will explore sounds and practise recognising musical patterns. Songs will be sung throughout the day as well as during weekly music and singing sessions.

**Religious Education:** In R.E. our learning question is, 'Who Made The Wonderful World?'. We will be exploring:

- That each individual is unique and precious
- How to be thankful and show thankfulness
- The Church
- Sharing the gifts of creation.