

Dear New Reception families,
We have had a great start to Reception, and the children are settling in very well.
Our overall topic for this half term is *This is Me*.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

We will be supporting the children in making friends, initiating play and settling into school. We will read lots of stories to support with this. We will begin to embed the school routines and expectations, as well as encouraging children to take a more proactive role in their own self care (toileting, dressing, hand washing.) Please help us in encouraging their independence in these tasks at home.

Literacy and Phonics:

We have loved story time already and will continue to read a wide variety of high-quality texts. In Reception, we will begin revising Phase 1, before introducing Phase 2 phonics. We will teach the children to begin to hear individual sounds within words (to segment), as well as put the sounds together to make a word (to blend them). These sessions will also include learning to read and write tricky words appropriate to each phase. Children are encouraged to apply this knowledge in guided writing sessions and in their independent writing. Each week, we will send home a Bug Club book that corresponds to the learning that your child has done in phonics this week. We will also encourage children to take home a range of free-choice texts from our class libraries. Please support your child's learning by embedding a daily reading routine, for example- a bedtime story.

Communication and Language:

We have been so impressed with how the children have communicated their needs with their new teachers and we will continue to prioritise developing clear speech and modelling language. During this term, we are building up the attention and focus of the children through stories, focus activities and structured play.

Maths:

This term we are exploring numbers up to 10 through a variety of ways. We will focus on developing children's understanding and awareness of value, as well as their fluency when counting. This is a crucial first step to develop problem solving, reasoning and number sense. As a school, we follow a mastery curriculum supported by NCETM and White Rose curriculum for Maths, from Reception to Year 6.

Physical Development:

We will be focussing on developing gross motor skills and core strength this term, through a range of activities such as, climbing, obstacle courses, moving and handling objects, as well as developing spatial awareness. Later in the academic year each class will have an allocated PE slot in the Main Hall, where they will be given the opportunity to build upon these skills in a more structured way. As part of this PE slot, the children will be required to take off their shoes and socks independently. Please can you practice this at home daily. Your class teacher will let you know when your child's class PE days are.

Understanding the World

As part of a diverse school community, we will be celebrating our differences and learning about what makes each of us special. We will be learning about the groups, communities and families we belong to, and why we are so important in them.

Expressive Art and Design

We have already begun to explore many creative forms- songs, role play, painting, drawing- to name a few! This term, as part of our All About Me topic, we will be creating self-portraits, drawing pictures of our families and people who are special to us.

Other information:

Home Learning:

- Daily reading (5 – 10 mins)
- A weekly task on Evidence Me, to reflect on the week's learning. You will receive an email invitation soon.

Special Events:

- *An Introduction to Reception for Parents and Carers: Wednesday 16th September 9am* in the Main Hall.

Notices:

- Please label all items of clothing and provide us with spare clothes for your child's peg to be kept in school.
- Book Bags must come into school daily.
- Thank you for your patience. We understand the start of the year can be busy, but we have really appreciated your support in settling the children and giving them the best start to school.

