

Reception Class Newsletter

Summer Term 2017



Welcome back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all had a relaxing Easter break. The Reception team is looking forward to another exciting term and hope that everyone is refreshed and ready to get back to school.

Our Reception Team is assisted by:

Early Years Key Worker - Miss McDonnell

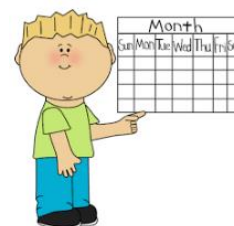
Teaching Assistants - Mrs Foot, Miss Tyler, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Ward, Mrs Secker, Mrs Fairley and Mrs Dhar

Dates for your Diary

10th May – Reception P trip to Frankie and Benny's

17th May – Reception F trip to Frankie and Benny's

29th May – 2nd June – Half term break



5th June – INSET DAY

13th June – Reception trip to Godstone Farm

7th, 14th, 21st June – Tennis

23rd June – Sports Day (morning only)

19th July – Break for Summer



The Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is divided into 7 areas of learning:

Prime Areas:

1. Personal, social and emotional development
2. Physical Development
3. Communication and Language

Specific Areas:

4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding the world
7. Expressive Arts & Design



In the Reception classes the different areas are usually integrated, although phonics, literacy and mathematics have separate sessions. This half term we are looking at the topic of 'Growing' and 'Mini-beasts', and next half term we will be basing our topic work around 'Pirates' and 'Travel'.

Skills for Life

Whatever we teach we aim to encourage the development of the following skills, taken in their broadest sense: **looking, asking questions, finding out, organising, making connections, having a go and sharing.**



Both classes have a half day each week in Forest School, this is a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their independent learning in a natural environment whilst enriching the curriculum. All of the children enjoy the activities areas like the climbing wall, the rope swing and so much more. We are also working in creating a second Forest School site. Please visit the Forest School section of the website for more details and pictures.



Reading and Writing



We are continuing with the Letters and Sounds teaching program to teach reading and writing. Please continue to revise the sounds and key words with your child at home, as this encouragement at home is absolutely essential.

We are also teaching cursive handwriting from the Letter Join scheme. A sheet has been handed out at both October and March parent's evenings that demonstrates how the letters are formed.

Maths

As mathematicians we aim to have a thorough understanding of numbers to 20 and beyond, counting forwards and backwards in 2's, 5's and 10's, placing these in order and saying which is one more or one less than a given number. We are also teaching the children to add and subtract. The concepts of pattern, shape, measure and classification are taught across the curriculum.



The Outdoor Classroom



The children will also enjoy developing their learning linked to the themes in our outdoor space which has lots of exciting equipment to explore.

Helping your child at home

As well as listening to your child read, reading aloud to your child is an extremely valuable activity as it gives the child access to books they are not able to read on their own. Non-fiction is just as useful as fiction; read whatever your child is interested in!

Extra Materials

If you have any spare tights, pants and socks that you could donate to our class resources for those 'little accidents' that would be very helpful.

Housekeeping

Just a quick reminder:

- Please make sure your child is adequately dressed for the weather.
- **Please ensure that all clothing is clearly named.**
- School opens at 8.40am. Please ensure your child enters school promptly so that our day starts on time.
- Please ensure that reading folders come to school every day, even on non-book change days.
- PE days – (RF Wednesday until half term, then back to Thursday) and (RP (Monday))



We are usually available after school if you want to discuss anything related to your child. We look forward to a happy and successful term with your children and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,
Mrs Holmes & Mrs Bushell