



Dear Parents,

We are delighted to welcome all our new children and families to the school. The children have settled in very well and we are looking forward to them joining us for more days next week. We will be holding a **Meet the Teachers Teams call on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 10-11am**. In this call we will discuss a little more about what the children will be learning at school. In the meantime, we thought it may be useful to share the following information about the Reception curriculum.

### Timetable:

Throughout the day the children participate in a wide range of child-initiated and adult-led activities both indoors and outdoors. The Reception timetable usually looks like this:

<b>Monday Mrs Bailey</b>	<b>Tuesday Mrs Bailey</b>	<b>Wednesday Mrs Bailey</b>	<b>Thursday Miss Douglas</b>	<b>Friday Miss Douglas</b>
EYFS activities inc English, Maths & Phonics	EYFS activities inc English, Maths & Phonics  Library	EYFS activities inc English, Maths & Phonics	EYFS activities inc English, Maths & Phonics  PE	EYFS activities inc English, Maths & Phonics

### School Values:



Our core value this term is **INDEPENDENCE**, in Reception the children are given the opportunity to explore their learning environment and begin to independently engage with activities through play. We also encourage the children to enter the classroom independently and take care of their own belongings.

### Topic

Our topics in Reception are inspired by the children's interests and children are involved in the planning of each topic. Our general themes for this term are 'All about me', 'Harvest', 'Space' and 'Christmas'.

### English

#### *Phonics*

Over the course of this term the children will take part in daily phonics sessions, they will practice writing all 26 of the letter sounds in the alphabet and will use these to blend (read) and segment (write) simple words. In a few weeks, the children will bring home phonics packs with cards of the letter sounds that they are learning. Please read regularly and practice with the phonics cards at home.

### *Writing*

The children will be taught rhymes to learn how to form each lower case letter correctly. The children will also be learning to write using a type of cursive script. We have a programme called Letterjoin they can access at home to help them with this. Log in details were in the induction pack, but please let us know if you need another copy.

### *Reading books*

Most children will receive their first reading scheme book by the end of September. Initially, these will be wordless picture books, which are a fantastic tool to develop speaking and listening skills. Please encourage your child to talk about the characters and setting in the story, make predictions and answer questions related to the events. As their sound recognition and blending skills develop they will be given their first book with words. These books will be sent out on a Monday and Thursday.

Once they have their reading scheme books, please make sure that your child's book and reading record go into their book bag each day and initial the reading record, so that we know when the children have read.

The children will also receive a library book once a week. They will be sent out on a Tuesday and are to be returned the following Tuesday so that your child can select a new one.

In summary:

<b>Reading Scheme Books</b>	One book sent out every Monday, collected in on Thursday. Two books sent out every Thursday, collected in the following Monday.
<b>Library Books</b>	Sent out every Tuesday, to be returned the following Tuesday

We will review this procedure after half term to see if it's working well. We will also explain this process a little more in our Meet the Teachers Call.

### **Maths**

In Reception, Maths teaching is based on the EYFS curriculum and supported by the use of White Rose 'Mastery Maths' resources.

This term the children will be:

- Working on their understanding of numbers
- Finding out one more and one less than a number
- Learning about time

We will be concentrating on the numbers 1-5 and look forward to explaining a little about the White Rose 'Mastery Maths' at our Meet the Teachers Call. Please help your child at home by encouraging them to count forwards and backwards and to count objects one at a time.

### **PE**

This term the children will be taking part in PE activities that further develop their spatial awareness, balance, coordination and agility. Their PE kit, Mile a Day shoes and plimsolls should stay in school every day. Please ensure all items of PE kit (and uniform) are clearly named.

## **PSHE (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)**

PSHE is woven throughout the curriculum and enhanced during our circle time sessions and assemblies. It involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others, build positive relationships and develop respect for themselves, others and property. The activities enable children to learn how to identify and manage their feelings; understand appropriate behaviour in groups; have confidence in their own abilities and keep themselves healthy and safe. The topics for this term are 'Being me in my world' and 'Celebrating Differences'.

## **RE (Religious Education)**

This term children will be learning about Diwali, the Harvest Festival and Christmas.

## **Show and Tell**

Show and Tell will run a little differently this term. On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September the children will be sent home with a sheet of paper to decorate with items about themselves which they must return by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. We will go into this more in our Meet the Teachers Call.

## **Homework**

- Reading and library books: As mentioned above reading books and phonics letter cards will be introduced this term and we will send out a letter about this closer to the time.
- Letter Formation: Your child will soon be sent home with a laminated name card. Please use this to help your child to write each letter in their name using the school's letter formation, encouraging your child to recite the letter rhymes as they write. These will be found on the back of the laminated name card.

## **Ways to Help Your Child at Home**

Please find below some suggested activities that will help to support your child's learning in school. The most important thing to remember is to ensure these activities are fun and stimulating, as this will help your son or daughter to develop a love of learning.

- Number hunting- Numbers are everywhere, encourage your child to spot them wherever you go!
- Shopping- Challenge your child to write you a shopping list, can they help you to count out the correct number of fruit/vegetables, allow them the opportunity to pay using real money.
- Cooking- Encourage your child to get messy in the kitchen! Talk about ingredients, where do they come from? Can they help you to follow the recipe and weigh the correct amount of each ingredient? Talk about changes that occur during cooking/cooling.
- Fine motor skills- There are several fun and practical ways to help to develop your child's fine motor control which will enable them to manipulate a pencil with good control. These include, pegging washing on the washing line, threading beads/pasta, cutting with scissors, wringing out flannels/squeezing water out of empty bottles in the bath and manipulating playdough (pinching and squeezing).
- Dressing and Undressing- Please continue to practice dressing and undressing into and out of school uniform, zipping up coats and putting shoes onto the correct feet.

After a great start to the year we are looking forward to a fun, stimulating term. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries or questions. We look forward to speaking to you about the Reception curriculum at the Meet the Teachers Call on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Kind regards

Mrs Bailey, Miss Douglas and Mrs Emmett