

# Reception Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1: Mon 7th Sept - 23rd Oct

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception! We hope you have all enjoyed the summer and are all looking forward to starting school. We cannot wait to meet you all and help your child start their journey at our school. Hopefully, I was able to answer any questions you may have had, when I rang you. If you have any further questions, then please do not hesitate to speak to us.

**Routines:** PE days are going to be on a Tuesday and Thursday, so please make sure your child has a named PE kit in school on these days. Once the children are settled in school we will start issuing books for home. On a Monday, your child will be issued with a library book for them to enjoy with you. On a Wednesday, they will receive a reading book to enjoy at home. Please can all books be returned to school on a Monday, so that we are able to quarantine books before they are reissued.

During the first two weeks, the staff will be completing a range of baseline assessment tasks with your child to inform our teaching for the half term.



**Prime Areas:** Our key focus this half term will be supporting your child. We will begin the term by looking at the story 'While We Can't Hug'. This is an opportunity to help the children understand how things in school are a little different during the pandemic. We will then move onto our 'Marvellous Me' topic, when we will look at what makes your child special.

**RE:** Our RE topic for the half term is 'I am Special'. We will look at what makes us special and why our friends are special.

**English:** Our English topic will be based around Owl Babies. We will look at the characters in the story and their feelings. We will also begin looking at phase 2 phonics and initial letter sounds as well as playing lots of listening games.

**Maths:** In Mathematics, we will begin by exploring numbers to 5. We will introduce the children to number conservation (recognition by a young child that quantity does not change with physical rearrangement) and subitising (a child's ability to recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them), as well as looking at number bonds to 5.



**Understanding the World:** As we move into Autumn, we will look at the seasons and observe the changes in the environment. We are lucky to have wonderful school grounds, which we can use to see what happens to the trees in Autumn and also changes to the weather.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** This half term we will explore colour. We will use the story of the colour monster to help. The children will be able to use different media and paints to mix colours to a desired outcome. We will also model to the children how they can use powder paints independently.

**Homework:** When the children are settled into our routine and school life, we will begin to send out weekly homework tasks.

Partnership with parents is a key aspect of our Early Years Curriculum, so members of the Reception team will be out on the playground each morning if you need to speak to us. We will also always be available to email through the school office, so do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Mrs McCaul