

Welcome to Class R

Hello and welcome to the Reception Class.

I hope you have had a lovely time over the summer and I am sure you are now ready to start the new school year, so welcome to Class R!

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your family. I am delighted to be working with you and I know that you will have a very exciting year. I hope that you enjoy the new challenges and approaches to learning that Class R has to offer.

Transition from Nursery to Reception

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from Nursery to Reception. Learning through play will continue to be an important part of the school day, and the children will gradually be eased into more focused learning opportunities as the year goes on so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners. Please don't hesitate to make an appointment to speak with me before or after school if you have any questions or queries.

How learning takes place...

During our literacy sessions we will introduce letters through the system of songs through our Twinkl scheme which encourages children to learn letters with a visual prompt, an action as well as a sound. The ideal is for the children to learn the sound and letter name and relate it to the letter shape. They will need your help and support for this and we will send home sets of letters after they have been introduced and your child will progress as they demonstrate their aptitude and enthusiasm for learning.

We will share books with them as a whole class. I would encourage you to continue sharing books with your child at home. Ask them questions to predict what might happen and then discuss what has happened, taking time to look at the pictures and describe characters or settings. Once your child is ready I will send them additional books from our reading scheme with an explanatory note for you. I do like their books and book bags to be in school each day so we get the opportunity to read with them too. Your child will have a reading record book in their bag. If you lose a reading book a replacement will cost £5 and a reading record will cost £2 and these can be purchased at the school office.

We will also have some whole class sessions for mathematics when we will engage in a range of counting activities, number recognition, songs, shape work and problem solving. We will also cover this with small group games and activities. You can support your child through noticing numbers in the environment, such as on doors, buses in telephone numbers etc. Also by asking them how many items or objects they can see, how many they might have if they had one more or less and talking about where things are in the house or in the shops.

Children will be exploring many areas of provision and will be encouraged to make choices and develop independence in their learning. They will learn through fun activities and will be encouraged to develop their learning further by adults providing next steps pertinent to the individuals own development.

Role play, sand, water, painting, construction and creative activities will be on offer daily and we will strive to offer free flow play when we can which will extend and develop their learning through indoor and outdoor learning opportunities. For this reason we would ask that they bring in their coats to enable access to outdoor areas.

Hometime

In order to ensure your child's safety I only let the children out as I see the parent/carer who is collecting them at the end of the day. As I am still getting to know you, this may take a little time at the beginning of the term so please bear with me. Can I also ask that if they are being collected by somebody please come and tell me or let the office staff know.

This Half Term..

Our theme will be "All About Me" We are also looking at seasonal changes, so if you find any conkers or leaves that are changing colour it would be great to have them on our investigation table. More information to follow as we change our themes each half term. I will aim to get this half terms curriculum newsletter out to you in the first week of school.

Star of the Day..

Each day one child will be chosen to be our Star of the Day. This will be for a child who has tried hard all day and has been helpful and kind to others. This is a motivational award that the children are really responding well too. They will receive a certificate and a small treat.

General Reminders...

The children will be doing PE on a **Monday** and a **Tuesday**. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school (from half term) as for the first few weeks we practise taking shoes and socks off then progress to getting fully changed, please can I ask that all items are clearly labelled. We encourage children to practise getting dressed at home to help them get changed quickly in school!

Children will engage in Forest School learning opportunities and will need a pair of wellington boots that can stay in school as the days can differ that we go in weather dependant.

Homework will be limited in Reception as I strongly believe that children need time to play, relax and spend quality time with their families and friends after school, regarding reading I do follow the school's policy of reading and a child's book will not be changed unless they have read at home and their reading record has been signed.

Children need a water bottle everyday whether they are having a school dinner or packed lunch as they have access to this throughout the day at their leisure, water will always be provided if not.

I will always try to aim to get newsletters and information out with plenty of notice if children are needing anything bringing into school, please keep an eye on Class Dojo as most information will be delivered on there too, also photos and information of what the children have been doing will posted on there.

I really look forward to working with you and your child this year, it will be a wonderful adventure, where we will celebrate all of your child's many successes together.

If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact me!

Mrs Lawton