

Reception Weekly Updates

Week ending 20th September

What a lovely first full week we have had! Well done again if your child has come in independently, put their things away and ordered their lunch without your support. It has also been brilliant having the children saying 'Good morning' as they walk through the door. Well done parents!

Lunch times have been a success this week, with most of the children enjoying the challenge of getting their own food and learning all the skills that go with this part of the day. We will still be having lunch with the children and will be watching the children at all times when outside. We have spoken/will speak to any parents of children needing extra support. Next week, we will try to integrate the children onto the big playground as we feel that most children are ready.

This week, we have been assessing your children on their understanding of letter names and sounds. Alongside this, we have been asking the children if they can recognise numbers up to 20. If you could continue to work on this at home, it would be much appreciated. Please bear in mind that both classes will be at different stages of their assessments.

We have explained our Golden Rules to the children and focused on the Golden Rule, 'We listen'. We have to be very strict at this stage in the year so that all children have the same boundaries and are given the same expectations. We are working on children not talking at the same time as an adult or another child and waiting to speak if they want to - this is particularly difficult for the children at this time. One warning is always given to a child before their face/name is moved on our behaviour chart; this is to help the children realise what they need to do to change their behaviour. Every child has the opportunity to earn 5 minutes towards Golden Time each day; if they have followed the Golden Rules and stayed off the thundercloud all day, they will have earned this.

Golden Time is done on a Friday afternoon and the children vote for what they'd like to do. This could be: bringing toys from home, dressing up, making or decorating food, playing on the field with the dogs, watching a DVD with popcorn etc. If the children have voted for something from home, then we will send a communication on Thursday evening to let you know or we will put it outside the classroom on the whiteboard. Please note, Golden Time will not always be the same in both classes as this is a vote led by the children. Sometimes we have time to pop ideas into their heads or the class bear suggests something, but it is ultimately down to the children's vote.

Ideas to Support Your Child at Home:

Please read through lots of books at home. Talk to the children about what is happening, why things are happening and what they think might happen next. Get your children to think of their own stories and characters and see where their imagination takes them. Language skills and storytelling are a prerequisite for reading and writing so these sessions are truly important.

Working on their independence will always be helpful. Cutting up their own food, putting their shoes on the right feet, washing their hands thoroughly, sorting a problem by themselves before getting help, these are all these things that will help a child cope with school life.

P.E. Days

The children have done P.E. today and have been encouraged to get changed independently, as much as they can. Please bear this in mind if their clothes are on back to front or inside out, we do support the children but encourage

independence where we can. A few children still did not have P.E kits or P.E trainers, can you please make sure they have these for Monday.

All children will have P.E on a **Thursday** with Mr Calpin and on a **Friday** with the class teachers. Please bear this in mind when thinking about sending your children to school with shirts or laces on those days. Also, given that there are two adults helping thirty children to get changed, we are finding it very difficult to identify which P.E kit belongs to which child when they get mixed up as lots haven't got their names on. Can you **PLEASE label your child's clothing if you want it back!** We will pop the P.E. bags outside the classroom after each P.E. session, this is for you to look through and identify if anything is missing, anything extra is in there, or if names have faded. We cannot effectively do this for all children and safely keep an eye on them after their P.E. sessions.

General

Could we politely remind you that our policy states that earrings should not be worn. (If your child has their ears pierced, please ensure you take your child's earring out in the morning.) This is for health and safety reasons, especially during outdoor play. If your child comes into school with earrings in, we will not be able to let them do PE.

Home School Diary

As a reminder, should you leave a message in the Home School Book, please leave it in the tray, or box, in your child's classroom. Ask your teacher to show you where this is. If there is no message in their books, they can be left in their book bags. Should we need to get a message to you, we will write it in the book also.

Spare Clothes

Please can you all make sure that your child has a spare change of clothes in school. Please also make sure that this bag is clearly named on the outside and your child knows where their spare clothes are. Your child will not be able to play outside in heavy rain, unless they have suitable footwear (wellies) and waterproofs with a hood.

We are aware that the transition into school is very difficult and we have had a few children struggle with their emotions this week. There will be a leaflet in your child's book bag today to support your child with this.

Dates for your diary -

Phonics information evening – 2nd October – Communication to follow

Individual Photos & Sibling Photo's – 4th October 2019

Bulb Planting at Rooksdown – 18th October 2019

Parent Share (Come and view your child's work after school at 15:00-15:30 at your own leisure) – Tuesday 22nd October & Tuesday 24th October

Half Term – 28th October – 1st November

Inset Day – 4th November

Nasal Flu Vaccinations (Spray) – 15th November (Consent form to follow)

Have a fun weekend, The year R Team 😊



**Mrs Cook +
Mrs Brown**
Head of Year R

Miss Gill
Year R Teacher

Miss Ellis

Miss Lee

Executive Headmaster: John DF Martin MA

Deputy Headteacher: Ms R Willmouth MSc

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