

Reception Weekly Updates

Week ending 13th September

Welcome to Year R! What a lovely week we have had. The children have been settling in really well and have been very well behaved; we are lucky to have them.

We will be writing a weekly newsletter to let you know what we have been up to in Year R and some things you could do to help your child at home. We have high expectations and are looking for your child to have a happy and successful year. We will therefore very much like to work with you and keep you updated as best we can; we also require your support to make sure your child's learning is re-enforced at home.

The weekly newsletter will be sent to you through email via Techers2Parentsevery Friday and will be available on the website. Please make sure you read it each week, especially to keep you updated on what is coming and the key dates to remember.

This week, the children have all been very busy settling in to their new classes, bonding with their teachers and making new friends. We have to say, we are very impressed with the amount of children that have come in independently already, it has only been one week! It has been lovely getting to know all of the children and seeing them happy - what a lovely bunch they are! Thank you to those children who have come in saying good morning and afternoon to us. Good manners are a high priority in our school so this was very nice to see so early on.

The children have had a tour of their environment and have learnt some basic rules. They are learning to listen to their teachers and other children and to put up their hands if they have something to say during carpet time. The children have learnt how to sit during circle time and to show respect to their new friends by listening carefully to them. They have also started learning how to show each other they are listening by looking at them whilst they are speaking and keeping quiet. They have also learnt to be brave and talk when it is their turn; the children have been brilliant at this.

We, the teachers, have been busy assessing the children in the seventeen areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage so we can tailor the children's learning when they are settled and ready to start. These assessments usually take around 3-4 weeks. Our assessments currently show that we will need to work on drawing, rhyming and recognising numbers.

Thank you to the parents that waved when their children came to the door at the end of the day. This really helps us identify who they are being collected by as when we see many faces at the door, it can be tricky to identify you quickly.

Ideas to Support Your Child at Home:

PE will start next week. It would be great if you could continue to support your child to be as independent as possible when getting changed. Please get them to practise any difficult tasks e.g. fastenings, shoes, etc. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school all week and all items are clearly labelled with their name.

It would help your child if you could practise rhyming words with them at home is something they should know before they start school, but we are aware it is a difficult concept and can be hard to understand. The more they play with rhyme and the more nursery rhymes and rhyming books they hear, the easier this will be to pick up.

General

We are a healthy school and we do expect children to only drink water whilst here. Please ensure that water bottles only have water in them. Also, please make sure their water bottles **never go** in their book bags; we have had so many incidents where water has leaked into bags and onto books. If you have to put their water bottles into their bags then please make sure they are empty- there is drinking water in both classrooms for them to fill them up each morning.

Please make sure your child has wellies and waterproofs in school at all times so they can make good use of the outside area in wet weather. Make sure they are clearly labelled with their name.

Birthdays

If it is your child's birthday and you have brought in a treat for the other children, we ask that the children go and ask their parents first. If their parents say yes, it is okay then they can come and get a treat. Please do not stand in front of the door as it can make it super hard to dismiss the children.

Uniform

Thank you for making sure your children look smart and have the correct uniform on. They look very sweet in their school clothes. Please make sure your children's shoes are school shoes and **not trainers**.

Our policy is that children **do not** wear earrings or any other jewellery. If your child has their ears pierced please ensure you take their earrings out in the morning. This is for health and safety reasons and so they will not be able to go on the bikes, trim trail or take part in P.E. or activities if they have earrings in. If this is an issue please come and see us.

Start and end of the day

From next week (16th) the children will be starting school at 8:45am and they will finish at 3pm. The registers need to be done and sent to reception by 8:55. If your child arrives at school after 8:55, please bring them in through the office to be signed in and marked in as late – this will have an effect on their attendance.

The phones lines open at 8:00am and close at 16:30. If you need to report your child's absence please leave a message on the answer phone which is **option 2 for Rooksdown and then option 1**. Please state the reason why your child is absent, their name and their class. **Please phone in by 9am to report an absence**. If you need to re-arrange a collection arrangement for your child, you can leave a message on option 2 for Rooksdown then option 2 again. Please do this before 1pm if possible as this is when messages get sent with the afternoon register.

Home School Diary

We have sent a Home School Diary home with your child this week. This is for any communications that we need to have with you or you need to have with us. If you leave a message in the book, please leave it in the tray by the classroom door so that your child's teacher knows to read this. Your teacher can show you where this is. If there is no message in their books for the teacher, 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. This is also used for you and us to write when they have read their reading book.

Medical Appointments

If your child has a Medical Appointment we ask that you please let us know in advance. Please also let the office know as they will need to see a copy of the appointment letter. We ask for you to let us know in advance so we can be prepared for your arrival as much as possible.

Holiday Requests

If you need to take your child out of school for a specific reason, we ask that you please complete an absence request form which can be located the school office. Holiday requests are only authorised in unique circumstances. Once your child turns 5 and misses 10 unauthorised sessions (9am register & 1pm register) in a 100 day period we do have the right to penalty notice parents. Please consider if a holiday is really necessary during term time as they can have an effect on the children's learning.

Communications

From time to time we do send communications via text and email. If you believe you have not received such communications, please go to the school office where your details can be checked.

Thank you for your support – If you have any queries or worries at any time please feel free to have a quick word with us at the beginning or end of school. There are lots of you and we would like to be available for all of you so should you need longer than a few minutes, please see your teacher to make an appointment.

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 ☺

Miss Cook/ Mrs Brown	Miss Gill	Miss Lee	Miss Ellis
Year R Teachers <i>Hedgehogs</i>	Year R Teacher <i>Ladybirds</i>	Professional Teaching Partner <i>Hedgehogs</i>	Professional Teaching Partner <i>Ladybirds</i>

Mrs James

Head of Year R