

Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception!

We are **delighted** to be teaching your child this year and we are looking forward to helping unlock their full potential. Mrs Lee will be teaching the class this year with help from our wonderful teaching assistants, Miss Duddy, Mrs Accialini and Miss Conroy. Miss McShane will also be teaching the class on a Friday morning when Mrs Lee has her planning time.

Reception is all about building a foundation for learning. We will do lots of work on communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; and physical development to ensure that children have an excellent foundation to build upon across their school life. We will also be developing maths, literacy, expressive art and design and understanding the world skills, across the reception year.

Our **PE day** this year is Monday so please ensure your child has named PE kit in school for this day. We also ask that **all uniform is named** as it is easy to get uniforms mixed up. We will also be spending lots of time in our outdoor area most days so please bring a waterproof coat with a hood so we can make the most of being outside. If you like, you can send in a pair of named wellington boots to keep in school for rainy days.

**Homework**

**Reading** – Children will soon receive a reading book to read at home. Children will keep this book to read 3 times before changing it. The first time you read the book, we would like you to look at the pictures and discuss who your child thinks the characters are and what they think is happening. The second time, your child should use their phonics knowledge to decode the words. The third read, you should ask your child questions about the book. Information about this can be found in the front of their reading record.

**Tricky Words** – Tricky words are words that we cannot use our phonics skills to read and write. Children will need to know how to read and write these words. Every time we learn a new tricky word in class, the word will be sent home for you and your child to practice reading and writing.

**Curriculum and well-being**

We ensure that our children are delivered a broad and balanced curriculum which includes all subject areas. During the first couple of weeks staff will work closely with their classes to make assessment of key learning, whilst monitoring pupil well-being. The curriculum has been designed to take account the differing experiences of each child. The staff are ready to support and nurture your children as we begin the daily routines of school life.

**Meet the Teacher**

There is an important Meet the Teacher and online safety meeting for Reception parents on Thursday 21st September – It is crucial you attend as recent changes to how we keep our children safe online may prevent your child accessing the internet in school unless the meeting is attended.

**Stay and Play and Information Meetings**

This year we are starting stay and play sessions in reception. These will take place once every half term. This is a chance for you to come into class with your child and see all of the exciting things they have been learning about. This is also a great opportunity for you to speak to your child’s key person. Before each stay and play session, we will have a short information meeting to help you support your child’s learning. We currently have meeting planned about phonics/reading and maths. If there is anything you feel you would like to know more about, please do not hesitate to let me know. The stay and play sessions and information meetings are booked in for the following dates:

* Friday 13th October 2023
* Friday 15th December 2023
* Friday 2nd February 2024
* Friday 22nd March 2024
* Friday 10th May 2024
* Friday 5th July 2024

**Communication**

We will continue to update the school website with our class news. Please remember to check your parent app regularly to keep in touch with what is happening in school.

We value good communication with parents so please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns about your child in school. Email is the best way to contact us – my email address is at the bottom of this letter.

Thank you for your support,

Kind regards,

Mrs Kirsty Lee

Reception Teacher

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