

Dear Reception Parents,

Your children have settled into school brilliantly and are all coping really well with the new routines and expectations.

We wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some of the key information for the coming year.

* **Named clothing** – Please ensure that all school uniform is named, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats. The children are now starting their PE lessons so please take this opportunity to encourage you child to dress and undress independently at home. We know how tricky buttons can be for little fingers, especially top buttons, so we will always be available to help with those.
* **PE** – Will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. We ask that earrings are either removed or micropore tape is put in PE bags to cover earrings.
* **Water bottles** – All children have been given a water bottle and children are encouraged to bring this daily. Please note that these bottles must only contain water (no juice or flavoured water please). Lots of parents have put identifying marks on their child’s water bottle which is great as it helps to prevent any mix ups.
* **Snacks** – All Reception children are given a piece of fruit or vegetable for a morning playtime snack however if you would like to send any additional fruit or vegetables, please ensure that these are named and then can be placed in the basket in the classroom.

If there is a medical reason that your child is unable to drink water or eat fruit, please contact us so that we can discuss alternative arrangements.

* **Library** – Your child will bring home a library book every Thursday. This is a book that they will have chosen themselves. Please take this opportunity to share this book with your child before returning the following Thursday.
* **Homework** – Homework will be set every Thursday (beginning Thursday 16th September) and must be completed before the following Tuesday.
* **Reading** -Your child will have a daily guided reading session in school. They will also bring home a Home reading book which will be changed weekly. Please encourage your child to talk about the story, let them tell you what is happening in the pictures.
* **Phonics** – Your child will bring home a blue phonics book linked to the sounds we are learning each week. Please practise the new sounds and handwriting. This book will be updated every Thursday so please make sure it is in your child’s red bag every Thursday. They will also be given a tricky word sheet showing the key words to learn each term. Your support with this will be invaluable.

We really appreciate the support that you have already given to ensuring that your child has settled in so well to school. We know that it can be tricky fitting everything in to busy family lives but your support will ensure that they have the best possible start to their education and we really do appreciate this. Thank you!

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact one of us either in the playground at the end of school or via Class Dojo.

Thank you

Jane Chandler and Alison Culshaw