



Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge welcome to Minnows and Sardines!

All children have settled well and are enjoying getting to know one another and exploring their new classrooms.

In these first few weeks we will be supporting the children to become increasingly independent and spending time getting to know all of their strengths and interests so that we can plan their next steps.

Belongings

Thank you to all the parents who have taken the time to label their child's belongings. This really helps reduce children's anxiety and promote their independence.

However, we have still had a large number of children start school with unnamed jumpers/cardigans, water bottles etc...

We do try really hard to help the children look after their property; all of the children have their own peg and there are places in the classrooms for jumpers, bags and water bottles. Lost property is difficult to manage at the moment due to COVID, so PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING!

It is really important that the children come into school well prepared. We ask for the following items only.

- Named bookbag – big enough to store the following items
- Reading record and reading book
- Communication book (yellow books)
- Named water bottle (Water only)

They also need a

- Coat (named)

Additional optional items

- Spare clothes including underwear (named)
- Wellies (named)
- Hat, gloves etc (named)
- Lunchbox (named) –if required

We do not permit children to bring in personal items such as toys as they become upset when other children want to share them or they get lost. Reception children do not need to bring in any stationary, the school has risk assessed the use and sharing of resources in the Reception bubble.

This term's learning

Later this term we will be introducing the text "The Little Red Hen", which will support the children in learning about Autumn, Harvest and farms. Please see attached a copy of the key vocabulary, which you can help your child to learn at home.

Reading

It is important that you read with your child everyday. Please use the Reading Record books to record when you have read together. This needs to be sent into school every day, along with the Home School Communication books. As a school, we are also part of the Buster Book Club, which is a national scheme that rewards sustained reading. On a Wednesday, children in Reception are required to read for a minimum



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of 10 minutes, any additional minutes are then also recorded. Children and classes that have read the most, have the chance to win some amazing prizes!

We are requesting that all of our families develop the custom of washing hands before and after using the reading books, as these are resources which are shared between school and home. Further details will follow about the frequency books will be coming home and any necessary "quarantine measures" for books!

Please keep a look out for details about our parent phonics and reading workshops which will be coming up later this term; these will be conducted online.

How You Can Help

- Model being a reader to them. You are their heroes; if they see you reading they will copy!
- Support your child to retell a familiar story. Talk to you child about what happens in the beginning, middle and end.
- Encourage your child to recognise familiar signs and symbols in the world around them, as well as the sounds as they learn them.

The children will be practising counting, reading and writing numbers to 10 and then 20. We will be developing our understanding of positional language, as well as learning to recognise and name simple shapes.

How You Can Help

Day to day

- Encourage your children to spot numbers everywhere. Can they find numbers on buses, doors, number plates? Can they count out items in a shopping basket?
- Look for shapes in the environment – can they create shapes?
- Talk to your child about daily events, using language such as "before, now, after, next, and later".

PE

On a Wednesday, Minnows and Sardines have PE. On this day children must come in to school wearing their PE kit. As with all school uniform, this must be clearly labelled with their names. PE kit is as follows:

- White t-shirt with school logo
- Plain black shorts/ leggings/ jogging bottoms
- Plain black fleece/hoodie/sweater
- White socks
- Black plimsols or plain black trainers

To ensure Health and Safety requirements are continually met, all long hair must be tied up and jewellery removed, earrings will be taped.

Superstar Stories

We will be sending home "Super-Star Stories" for your child. These are your opportunity to share with us, your child's strengths and interests, along with any news and areas that they may need some support with. We use these to inform our planning in school so please return promptly.



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Snack

Normally the children in Reception and Key Stage One are provided with free fruit for snack as part of the Government's Infant Fruit Scheme. This was suspended in response to Covid19. However, the scheme has restarted. The children may have this fruit every day. However, it may be worthwhile to note that if this should be suspended again in the future, then your child should be sent in with a small, healthy snack for mid-morning break (e.g. fruit, raw veg, crackers...) **Remember NO NUTS or food containing nuts.**

Class Dojo

We will be using class dojo as a means of sharing news and updates from school. You can also send us messages and share photos of home learning. Please make sure you have activated your accounts and set it up to receive notifications. Any problems, please do get in touch so that we can assist you.

Forest School

Throughout the course of the year all of the children will receive a term of Forest School with our EYFS Forest School staff, Sophie and Carly (from Pugwash Nursery). You will be informed when it is your child's turn to attend Forest School. Forest School runs every Thursday afternoon – whatever the weather; so make sure you read the instructions on what they will need to wear.

"Balanceability"

Later on in the term we will be commencing "Balanceability" bike sessions. More details will follow, but please take a look at <https://www.balanceability.com/> for more info. As with Forest School, each child will have a turn at completing the course.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Isted, Mrs Kearney and Mrs Foster