

# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

## Autumn 1 2020

Welcome to the first Reception newsletter.

We hope that these letters will keep you informed of all that is happening in Reception.

### THEME

Our current topic is called 'Me and My World'. We will be looking at where the children live and who they live with. We will be investigating different types of homes and comparing them and looking at the locality the children live in.

Each week we will be exploring a different story and using it as a basis for much of the learning within the 7 areas.

**Week 1, 2 & 3** – Settling in, getting to know classroom rules and routines. Making relationships with staff and children. Finding our way around school. Learning and reciting Nursery Rhymes.

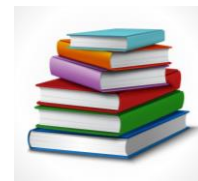
**Week 4** – The Name Jar

**Week 5** – My Mum & Dad Make Me Laugh

**Week 6** – The Great Big Book of Families

**Week 7** – Bear at home

**Week 8** – This is Our House/Homes



### Reception Staff

We have two classes in our reception. Mrs Shaikh and Mrs Hatton are the class teachers and our amazing support assistants, Mrs Gornall, Mrs Nelson, Miss Patel & Miss Cothliff are always here to help. Mrs McMeekin our HLTA will be working with the children in the absence of the class teacher.

If you need to speak to us please see us before or after school or ring the school office to make an appointment.

**This is what we are focusing on in the 7 areas of learning over the next half term**

### Communication and Language

We will be looking at lots of new and exciting stories throughout the topic and reading both fiction and non-fiction books, we will be encouraged to speak in full sentences and think about what we want to say about the topic. We will try and maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly during activities. We will be encouraged to answer 'how' and 'why' questions. Use past, present and future tenses when talking about events and add a story line to our play.

### Personal, social and emotional development

This half-term we will be focussing on Growth Mindset. We will be learning about how we can become independent learners. We will encourage children to do things for themselves and access the resources available to them to help them do this. We will then move the topic 'Being Me in My World'. We will explore what makes each of us unique, what emotions we have and how to deal with these emotions and what makes a good friend. Learning about sharing and taking turns.

### Physical development

PE sessions will be on Thursday's. Named PE kits of a PE t-shirt and shorts will be needed as we begin our PE sessions. We will be focussing on getting dressed and undressed independently and will be developing our gross and fine motor skills.



### Literacy

Literacy carpet sessions will introduce the children to different stories around the theme of families and homes. We will be writing lists, labelling objects, writing captions and instructions. We will explore story language and look at the structure of a narrative. We will use our phonic knowledge to write sentences and begin to use capital letters and full stops. We will talk about what we have read.

## Mathematics

We will start off by looking at daily routines and looking for numbers in the environment. We will then focus on matching, what is the same, what is different. We will sort objects by colour, size and shapes. We will then move onto looking at a number a week and really focussing on that number. We will use the Numberblocks series to help us with this.

## Understanding of the World

Children will look at where they live and who they live with. They will explore the different types of houses we live in and compare them to houses in the past. The children will begin to sort materials according to their properties and will construct using these. We will look at the environment that we live in and how we can look after it.

## Expressive Arts and Design

We will be encouraging and developing all the children's creative talents by developing skills by using our bodies to make different sounds. Using our voices to sing loudly and quietly and using objects found around the home to make music. We will collage using different materials, painting and making observational drawings. We will be colour mixing and choosing colours for a particular purpose and introducing a storyline in to our play



### READING

Due to COVID we will not be giving out reading books to the children. Adults will read with the children in class and your child will be given a password for Rising Stars to access books on line. Please read with your child at least three times a week. It doesn't need to be the whole book 10 minutes is sufficient. The class teacher can monitor this online. Parents who support their child with reading at home make more accelerated progress at school.

## LUNCHTIMES

**Reminder**-All infant children are entitled to a free school meal. We have a variety of hot meals or a choice of packed lunches. All meals are suitable for vegetarians. If your child is not having a school dinner and would like them to have one, please see the class teacher. Menus are available on the school website.



**Could we please ask that if you are claiming any benefits, please claim for Universal Free School Meals as this will entitle your child to have free milk, plus a range of other benefits and helps school with funding.**

## LEARNING JOURNEYS

We have a Learning Journey in school which celebrates your child's experiences. Over time it tells a story about your child – their learning, friends, and the experiences he or she enjoys sharing with others. Throughout the year there will be opportunities when you will be invited to look through, and contribute to, your child's Learning Journey. At this age, so much happens so quickly and we would love to hear about events, activities or achievements which can be put into your child's Learning Journey! Feel free to write us a note, have a chat to a member of staff or bring in a photo, drawing or souvenir to share with us. When you tell us about your child a clearer picture unfolds and together we can plan more effectively to help your child's learning and development.

### Things to do to help your child

- Listen to them read as often as possible and share books
- Ask your child what they have been learning
- Give them opportunities to visit the library or websites to read around the topic & gather information of interest them.
- Encourage your child to practise their scissor skills
- Encourage your child to practise writing their name
- Encourage your child to practise their letter sound recognition



## CORONAVIRUS

Due to the current situation we would just like to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to keep everyone safe. Reception children are a bubble on their own and we are ensuring that children are using sanitiser and washing their hands frequently. The surfaces and toys are also being sterilised regularly to keep everyone safe. Please can we just remind parents to drop off and pick up promptly to avoid any unnecessary waiting around.