



# RECEPTION CURRICULUM LETTER

## Autumn 1 2021

Welcome to our first Reception newsletter.

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

### Reception Staff

We have two classes in our reception. Mrs Shaikh and Mrs Hatton are the class teachers and our amazing support assistants are Mrs Cornall & Miss Patel.

Mrs Rawat 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.

### THEME

Our theme this half term is called 'Magical Me'. We will be looking at how we are all unique and the similarities and difference between us. We will look at who makes up our family and 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** – 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 3** – Only One You by Linda Kranz

**Week 4** – Super Duper You by Sophy Henn

**Week 5** – What Makes Me a Me? by Ben Faulks

**Week 6** – Five Minutes Peace by Jill Murphy & The Great Big Book of Families by Mary Hoffman

**Week 7** – Once There Were Giants by Martin Waddell

**Week 8** – This is Our House by Michael Rosen



**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 this half term. 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. We will try and use new vocabulary learnt when speaking and writing.

### 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 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 Monday'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 uniqueness, 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 help us write sentences. We will talk about what we have read.



## Mathematics

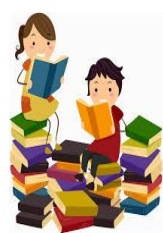
We will start off by looking at daily routines and looking for numbers in the environment. We will then focus on matching, what is the same, what is different. We will sort objects by colour, size and shapes. We will then move onto looking at a number a week and really focussing on that number. We will 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, the types of building and how we can look after the locality in which we live.

## 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 storylines into our play



### READING

Once the children have learnt the first few sounds, they will be bringing home 2 reading books. One which they will be able to read by themselves practicing the sounds they have learnt in school and another book which they may need some help with. Please read with your child as often as possible. It doesn't need to be the whole book 10 minutes is sufficient. Parents who support their child with reading at home make more accelerated progress at school. Please ensure books are brought into school daily so the staff can listen to them read too.

## 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.**

## SPARKLE BOOKS

We have a Learning Journey (Sparkle Book) 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. If you would like to contribute to your child's book, please send in a little note with a picture or photograph or upload to dojo. We love to hear about events, activities or achievements that the children experience outside of school.

## 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