



RECEPTION HALF TERMLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you and your children had a lovely Summer break and it is great to welcome the children into school for their Reception year. The children have settled into school well and are enthusiastic to try new activities and make new friends. We also welcome you as partners in your child's education and we look forward to getting to know you, and your children, much better over the coming year.

As we settle into our first half term and the children get to know the routines and become more comfortable with the full school day, we will be encouraging the children to take part in the activities relating to our topic of "Marvellous Me!" The children will be doing lots of reading and writing activities, many of which will be based on teaching phonics. These activities will be closely linked to many areas of learning across the curriculum. Number and concepts in Maths will also be taught through a variety of practical approaches. The children will hopefully see these tasks as "play and fun!" The children will visit the studio each week for musical sessions, the ICT suite to use the computers and also the hall for PE. The children will access the outdoor classroom area as often as possible but will also have a structured PE lesson outside on Thursday afternoons. The indoor PE sessions for each class are on Tuesday.

Please could you ensure that your child has their PE kit ready hanging on their peg with every item named clearly! All earrings must be removed on the two PE days—thank you for your cooperation.

The children are enjoying reading books and are always keen to choose books to bring home to share with you. Book bags come home each Tuesday and Friday and we would like them to come back to school on Mondays and Thursdays please. Our cursive handwriting script is attached for your reference in homework books. Please encourage your child to practise the correct formation of each letter. All the letters now begin on the line and move upwards. We would really appreciate your assistance with this area of learning.

On a Tuesday (beginning 12th September) talking homework will be included. This will be linked to the themes being addressed in school that week and we would appreciate you taking the time to talk with your child, as this will help them with activities at school. On a Friday (beginning 15th September) there will be sets of prepared sounds/words work for you to practise with your child. This is really important as we value a working partnership with our parents.

Each Monday we encourage the children to bring an item for "Show and Tell". Each child has the opportunity to talk to the rest of the class about their item. The themes are listed below for each **Monday** of this half term.

Monday 11th September: Me and My Family (eg. Photographs)

Monday 18th September: Sight and Sound (eg. Noisy toys, binoculars)

Monday 25th September: Touch and Texture (eg. Rough/smooth/bumpy)

Monday 2nd October: Sense of smell (eg. Draw pictures of favourite smells—please do not send actual items to smell)

Monday 9th October: Houses and Homes (eg. Pictures, photos, animal homes, books)

Monday 16th October: Free choice (eg something about yourself.)

***Please can we ask that children only bring in one item for "Show and Tell".**

Throughout the year we will be tasting foods and baking a variety of items with the children. If your child has any allergies concerning different foods please let us know, in writing, and also keep us up to date if these change throughout the year. Thank you for your cooperation.

On each Friday we will be sending home Care Bear from each reception class, with a child who has shown exceptional kindness and caring during that week. Care Bear will come home for the weekend and we encourage the child to report back on a Monday morning. You are welcome to send in pictures or photographs of your child's weekend with Care Bear.

Important Diary Dates:-

Monday 30th October and Wednesday 1st November: Parent Consultations.

We are always pleased to receive any donations of unwanted books or toys that you no longer require. We would particularly love good quality construction toys, old phones and as always we do collect "junk" materials for model making but we are not able to accept toilet roll inner tubes or egg boxes. Many thanks!

Can we please take this opportunity to remind you that we do love to have parent helpers in school once we feel that the children have settled in. If you would be interested and are able to come into help please do let us know. All helpers must be police checked through our school - please see the school office staff for further details.

If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Reception staff and we will be happy to try and help.

With thanks,

From the Reception staff.