



Autumn Term 2021

Welcome!

Firstly we would like to welcome all new families and returning families to the reception year. This is one of the most exciting years for your child as it is their first experience of school.

One of our main focuses over the next few weeks will be settling the children in, ensuring that they are happy and ready to learn.

Personal, Social and Emotional

Everything is new to the children therefore a lot of time will be spent embedding routines and discussing expectations to make our classroom a happy one. Our school rules are available on our website, these could be discussed at home with your child.

Communication and Language

There are lots of ways in which you can help to develop your child's communication and language. One of the main ways is to do lots of talking! Discuss their day, what they can see on a car journey, story plots etc. Encourage children to extend their ideas and thinking by asking 'How do you know that?', 'Why did you enjoy that the most?' etc.

Physical Development

Our PE session will be on Monday. Please make sure children come to school dressed in their PE kit on this day until half term.

Encourage your child to help with their self care, dressing and undressing, putting on shoes, opening bags etc.

Children learn a lot through exploring outdoors. Allowing your child to play and explore outside while the weather is still nice will help to really engage their imagination and problem solving skills through activities such as den building, bug hunts and nature walks.

Mathematics

There are endless ways in which you can help your child develop their mathematical understanding at home. Here are just a few of the starting points you may find useful:

- When shopping, ask them to collect 4 oranges, 5 bananas, etc.
- Ask them which is heavier, the potatoes or the carrots
- Ask them if your trolley is full or empty
- When driving along point out vehicles that are going fast and those that are going slow
 - Ask them to keep a record of how many red cars they pass, or how many blue ones
- When out walking with your child ask them if they can identify a square window or a rectangular door
- Play card games with your child, including Happy Families, Snap, etc.

Writing

Before writing can begin children need well developed gross and fine motor skills. So they need to explore large scale mark making such as working with large paintbrushes and working with malleable materials such as dough, practise using scissors and glue.

You can, of course, help to develop your child's personal writing skills at home by providing them with pencils, crayons, felt tip pens, paper and scissors so that they can use their skills for practical tasks such as making birthday cards for friends, helping to write shopping lists, label boxes, or just scribbling and play writing.

Reading

Your child will be bringing home books from school early in the term. These are books that the children can initially choose for themselves. Indeed, they may repeatedly choose the same book, don't worry repetition is good!

When a book comes home please:

- Read the book with your child first
- Discuss both the pictures and the story content
- Help them to focus on the print by pointing out words which they might already know
 - Let your child turn the pages at their own pace and if there is repetitive text ask them to join in
- Encourage your child to re-tell the story in their own words