



## Welcome to Reception

### **The Reception Day**

The day starts at 8.40 and finishes at 3.15.

A brief outline of the day is as follows:

<b>Morning</b>	
8.40 – 9.00	Children arrive, fitness session, registration. For the first term parents are welcome to come into the classroom to settle their children.
9.00 – 10.00	Group time, whole class English focus. Child initiated, independent learning and adult led activities.
10.00 – 10.20	Phonics
10.20 – 10.40	Snack and break. This will be in the classroom for the first term, then on the playground with the rest of the school.
10.40 – 11.40	Group time, whole class Maths focus. Child initiated, independent learning and adult led activities, inside and outside.
11.40 – 12.00	Group time - singing
12.00 – 1.00	Lunch
<b>Afternoon</b>	
1.00 – 1.10	Registration and funky fingers, dough gym, letter formation.
1.10 – 1.30	Reading session, sharing books and stories, phonics games.
1.30 – 2.50	Topic based challenges. Child initiated, independent learning and adult led activities, inside and outside.
2.50 – 3.15	Group time – circle time / PSHE / Story

### **Collection at the end of the day**

Please collect your child from the Community Room at 3.15pm. The children will be brought down to through the hall and handed over to parents and carers. If your child is to be collected by someone different please let the office know and they will write it in the collections book.

## **Early Years Foundation Stage - EYFS**

The EYFS is organised through seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Communication and Language (CL)
- Physical Development (PD)
- Literacy (L)
- Maths (M)
- Understanding the World (UW)
- Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

Activities are carefully planned through these areas of learning and challenges are set to further support children's learning.

### **Characteristics of Effective Learning**

An important focus of the EYFS is to support children not just in *what* they learn, but *how* they learn. Children will develop Characteristics of Effective Learning, which will support their learning throughout their education.

We reward children with *Achievosaurus* when they demonstrate these characteristics and ask parents to look out for these characteristics at home too. Please see the attached sheet for further information.

### **Learning Journeys**

In Reception your child's learning will be recorded in his or her Learning Journey. This is a lovely record of pictures, photos, writing and observations taken by adults. All children also have an English book and a Maths book where work related to these areas of learning is recorded, to begin with this may be photos, towards the end of the year there will be more work recorded by the children. These Learning Journeys are a lovely celebration of your child's development throughout the Reception year.

### **Parent's input**

We really value parents' involvement in their children's learning, after all, no one knows your child better than you. There are many ways in which you can support and contribute to your child's Reception year.

- Gold Stars – we will send home a sheet of gold stars so you can record any significant achievements you witness at home, these can range from riding a bike, swimming, doing up their coat for the first time, reading, counting, helping you cook some cakes – anything that makes you say Wow! If you feel proud we would love to hear about it. Please write it on a gold star and send it in so we can celebrate your child's

achievements at school. These stars will then be added to your child's Learning Journey.

- Stay and play – these are termly sessions when we invite you to come in and see what your child has been learning. These will be opportunities for you to look in their Learning Journeys and see what we have been doing.
- Homework – every week your child will bring home a home learning book. We will tell you what your child has been learning each week so you can talk about it together. We then provide some suggested activities which you can try at home. These include practising phonics sounds and reading, practising maths skills and lots of creative activities. We try to keep learning in Reception practical and fun so please don't think of homework as a task where you have to sit at a table for an hour!! You can practise counting as you play outside, you can talk about measures as you bake cakes, you can explore floating and sinking or capacity while playing in the bath, you can build fantastic creations from old boxes and packets – I hope you enjoy the suggested activities. Support at home makes such a difference.
- Reading –. It is important to remember that reading is about decoding (phonics and reading words) and comprehension (understanding what the story or information text is about).
  - It is really important for children to hear stories regularly. By listening to stories children develop a wider vocabulary, an understanding of story language and story structures. This supports children with their writing, imagination, language and creativity so is really important. When you read to your child you may want to talk about the characters and settings, ask *What do you think might happen next?* Or *What do you like about this story?* Don't feel you always have to talk about the story though, sometimes children just want to get lost in their imagination.
  - Please support your child with the phonics that they are learning and once they start bringing books home to read, please listen to them read regularly. 5 minutes every day is more effective than half an hour once a week.

## **Outdoor Learning**

During the Reception Year children will be learning both inside and outside. Children learn a lot from being outdoors, using their senses to make sense of the world around them, experiencing the changing seasons and weather, observing changes, developing both fine and gross motor skills etc. We do go outside whatever the weather so ask you to make sure your child has the appropriate clothing for the time of year. Please make sure your child has wellies in school, we keep them by the door to the garden. We often take the children out for walks in the locality and rain will not stop us, so please make sure your child has a raincoat.

## **PE**

Reception children do take part in a PE session once a week so please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every day. It would be really helpful if your child could practise putting their PE kit on over the summer holidays.

## **Water bottles and book bags**

Please ensure your child has a water bottle and a book bag with them every day. We will be sending letters, reading books and homework books home and children often bring pictures and other creations home. It is very difficult to help the children organise themselves if they do not have a book bag in school. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.