

Reception Newsletter

Staff in Reception

Assistant Head teacher: Mrs Hart

Parrot Class: Miss Gray (Year leader) & Mrs Keddo

Goldfish class teacher: Mrs Ali & Mrs Mullane

Rabbit Class teacher: Miss Morton & Mrs Hussain

Hamster Class teacher: Mrs Choudhury & Mrs Sibinska

Thank you for taking the time to read this curriculum newsletter. The partnership between home and school is an important factor in children's learning. This newsletter will give you information on what will be taught this term and important dates that you will need to know. Also detailed below are some ways you can help your child at home. Please do come into school to share with us your delight, concerns and comments about the curriculum we are implementing. Our priority for the first few weeks of term is to help the children to settle into Maidenhall; to become familiar with the rules and routines and to feel confident in their new environment. We know it can be a bit hectic when dropping your child off in the morning and at home time but please let a member of the Foundation Stage Team know if you have any questions.

As the weather starts to get colder, please ensure your child wears a warm coat with accessories if necessary (scarf, gloves and hat). Children will also need to have wellies left at school that they can wear when they play in the outdoor sand area. Please ensure their name is written inside all clothing (including shoes). Your child will also need to leave spare clothes in school in case of any accidents. This will need to be labelled and inside a bag that can be hung on their peg.

Understanding the world

We will be talking about where we live, what our homes look like and we will be going out to explore the local environment and community. There are also a variety of small world people and animals for the children to play with and they can create their own stories. There is a range of construction equipment for the children to build their own communities and engage in imaginative play related to their own experiences. We will also be making comparisons with different environments and making observations of the changing seasons.

How you can help at home

- Daily communication with your child about their school day. Ask them questions about their day.
- Adults reading stories to children and modelling reading.
- Listening to children tell stories using pictures in books.
- Counting objects, steps, jumps etc.
- Pointing out letters and numbers in the environment .

We will begin working on the following phase 1 activities:

- Joining in with rhyming and rhythmic activities
- Listening to and joining in with stories and songs
- Listening and learning to continue a rhyming string
- Learning to identify the initial sound in words

We will be following the letters and sounds phonics programme to teach children phonics. When children are ready we will be moving them onto phase 2 of the phonics programme.

Phonics

Literacy

We will be teaching the children to read, recognise and write their own name. For the first half term we will be focussing on communication and language. We want the children to be good communicators; to be able to listen to others, ask and answer questions and talk about things that interest them.

We will be encouraging the children to mark make using a variety of materials like gloop, chalk, paint, shaving foam, sand and glitter. This helps to develop fine motor control which help the children to become confident writers.

Expressive Art and Design

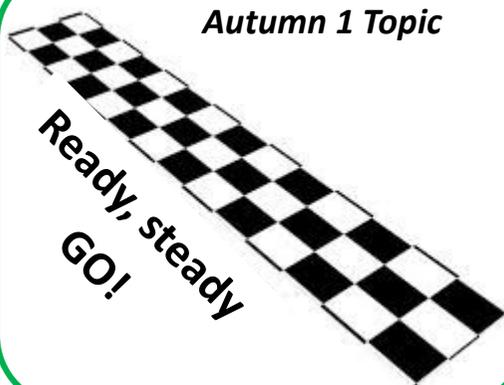
Children always have access to a range of materials where they can create. These include play dough, paint, sand, water, pencils, crayons, glitter and musical instruments to name a few.

Maths

We will be counting, singing number songs and ordering numbers up to 10. Teachers will be working with the children to count objects accurately and to begin forming numbers correctly. Children have access to maths resources in the learning environment and will be supported by adults to use number and shape in play.

Snack time is an important part of our day. The children have the chance to sit and have their snack as a group. This gives adults opportunity to get to know the children and their individual interests and gives the children the confidence to communicate with peers.

Autumn 1 Topic



Physical development

Whatever the weather, children have access to learn in the outdoor area. We also have activities inside that support children's fine motor control (sand, foam, tweezers, dough gym) which strengthens muscles for writing. There will also be weekly PE lessons with Mr Barnett.

PE days

PE will be on a Friday. A PE kit needs to remain at school in a labelled bag. Each item of clothing must be labelled with your child's name as it is likely items of clothing will become lost or mixed up with other children's.

School uniform

It is important that children respect their school uniform and look after it. We ask that jewellery and nail varnish are not worn in school. If they have pierced ears they may wear small studs.

Homework (will be set at a later date)

Word boxes- These are a set of words that children practise reading at home. Once they are able to read all the words, teachers will check and give the child the next set. This will support children's reading.

Reading- When children start reading they will take a reading book home every week that they will need to read. Parents and families can make a comment in the reading record to show that the child has read at home. We encourage parents to comment to celebrate how often children are reading.

Activities- Homework will start to be given out when we feel the children are ready. Homework will be a set of exciting learning activities that children complete with their parents and families at home. They will have then share their work with their friends and teachers. Homework will need to be completed by Friday each week.

Important dates (details will be confirmed at a later date)

- Welcome meeting for parents- Thursday 20th September, 2.15pm
- Trip- Exploring the local environment -Thursday 27th September
- WOW day- week beginning Monday 15th October

How we use your child's information in Reception

Photographs

Your child's photographs are used regularly in reception to document children's learning and celebrate achievements. Each child will have their own learning journal. A learning journal is a collection of notes, observations, photographs and pieces of children's work. It is what we use to show the children are making progress against the early years curriculum. Often, we take photographs showing an individual child's learning. However sometimes other children can be photographed in the background and pictures of your child will be in other children's journals. If you do not want your child's photograph to be used in another child's learning journal, please inform the class teacher by Friday 14th September. Consent can be withdrawn at any time.



This is an online Communication App used to share information in class. This can include posting content (videos, photos, notes, files, voice recordings). The children will be using the app to take pictures of their learning and play to share with their peers. Only teachers and children will have access to this information and it is a great way for children to share their learning. If you do not want your child's photograph to be taken using this app then inform the class teacher by Friday 14th September. Consent can be withdrawn at any time.