

September 2022

Welcome!

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a lovely summer

and

I want to welcome you to the new school year - which I know brings a mixture of emotions as your child starts school! Myself and the reception team will settle the children in gently and we will make sure this is a happy and successful year for your child. We look forward to getting to know all of the children. It is going to be a fun-filled, productive and exciting year and we hope to provide your child with many opportunities to enrich their learning. Our first topics for the year are 'It's good to be me' followed by 'Superheroes and super celebrations'

The children will be coming home with a reading folder, which will include the sounds we will be learning from the start of Reception. We follow the ReadWriteInc phonics scheme. It is important that your child learns how to read and write these sounds in Reception. Please practise these sounds with your child. We do daily phonics lessons and reading and writing is incorporated into the classroom every day. The children will also come home with a word pack. The children are to practise these words at home with you- reading and writing throughout the year. These words are the words that Reception children must know by the end of the year and are commonly known as high frequency words (HFWs). Please keep the sounds and word cards in their book bag. When they are ready, your child will also bring home a book to read at home each night. The books are changed on Mondays and Thursdays each week. We will also hear all children read on a 1:1 basis each week.

Reception will have PE on a Monday morning with our PE coach. Please make sure your child comes into school wearing their PE kit on these days (see school uniform policy) and they will stay wearing their kit all day so they do not need their uniform on these days. Their first PE lesson will be on Monday 12th September and each Monday after that.

Your child needs to bring in their book bag and a coat to hang on their peg - no matter what the weather looks like. We spend a lot of time outside and our UK weather is very changeable! They can also bring in a small water bottle that they keep in the classroom to access throughout the day. The school does provide a fruit/vegetable snack everyday for each child at break time. If you wish, you can provide your own snack, however, the snack must be healthy - either fruit or vegetable or a cereal bar is fine (no nuts). No crisps, sweets, chocolate etc. The children will be provided with a carton of milk every day if they wish to have one- this is now being funded by the school. If your child has an allergy or intolerance to dairy, you are welcome to provide them with their own milk e.g. oat, coconut, soya etc that we will store in our classroom fridge. If this is the case, then please could this also be labelled. If your child has any food allergies or intolerances, please collect, fill out and return the appropriate form. Ms Webb in the office will be able to assist you.

We do try very hard to help the children to keep their uniform clean, however in Reception we do learn through play and sometimes the uniform can get a little messy. The children are provided with and encouraged to wear aprons during creative, messy and water based activities. Can I ask that you provide your child with a bag of spare uniform and underwear in case of any toilet accidents or big messes in the classroom. We have a small selection of spare clothes but it won't necessarily fit or

feel comfortable for your child. They prefer their own clothes. Please label all belongings such as water bottles, snack pots, uniform, coats and PE kit with your child's name.

On sunny days, please send your child in with a sun hat and please put sun cream on your child before they come to school. This must be one that lasts for 8 hours so that they do not have to reapply during the day, as the children are not permitted to bring sunscreen in their book bags.

Please can we ask all shoes, PE trainers and school shoes, to be Velcro and no laces until your child is completely confident fastening laces.

Any letters or reply slips which need to be returned, must be brought in with your child in their book bag. The children are encouraged to develop their independence and as much as possible, they will be encouraged to bring in their own belongings - reading folder, drink bottles, letters etc.

In Reception, more than any other year group, we use lots of different hands on and role play resources throughout the year. We are always very happy to welcome any donations of dolls/toys/dressing up/teddies/building bricks/junk modelling/glitter/pipe cleaners/pom poms/fabric/googly eyes etc if you're having a clear out or have them lying around the house - please do not feel you have to go out and do a special buy! I thank you in advance.

Each week, we will have a play dough station as it helps to develop children's fine motor skills. If you are happy to donate one or more of the play dough ingredients for us to store in school, then that would be great. The ingredients are: plain flour, cooking oil, table salt, cream of tartar, food colouring. Again, it would be greatly appreciated, thank you.

Just to remind you, children from Reception up to year 2 are entitled to free school dinners. There is a termly menu which will be given out to you and the children will make their meal choice each morning when we do the register. Of course, if you would rather provide your child with a packed lunch from home then that is fine - just remember it needs to be healthy, substantial and **nothing including nuts as we are a nut free school.**

If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Once the children have fully settled in, I will start sending home a weekly bulletin via email which will give you an insight into what we have covered in the week so you can continue to focus on particular areas of learning with the children at home if you wish to. It will also provide you with any other information you need to know for our Reception class and any upcoming important relevant dates etc.

We also use Tapestry to keep in touch with our families. Tapestry is an online journal where we can record and share observations of your child's learning. You may be familiar with Tapestry already or similar programmes such as Evidence Me or Seesaw. You will soon receive a link to your email address to join Tapestry so that you can share learning from home, proud moments or celebrations. Please note that we will not be using Tapestry to send home daily/weekly observations but we may share key moments and celebrations with you. Tapestry has a wonderful and informative website should you wish to learn more about it, here is the link for your knowledge: <https://tapestry.info/parents-carers.html>. More information on all things Tapestry is to be sent out in due course via email, so please do have a look out for this. Please ensure that the office has the most up to date contact details for you, particularly email address.

See below for a reminder of the timings for this 'settling in' week 5th -9th September. From Monday 12th September, children are in full time **8.40am - 3pm**. Please drop off and collect your child from the playground outside of the Computer room door.

Monday 5 th September	Tuesday 6 th September	Wednesday 7 th September	Thursday 8 th September	Friday 9 th September	Monday 12 th September
9.00am – 12.00pm	9.00am – 12.00pm	9.00am – 1.00pm	9.00am – 1.00pm	9.00am – 3.00pm	All children
30 children	30 children	30 children	30 children	30 children	All day
		<i>Stay for lunch</i>	<i>Stay for lunch</i>	<i>All day</i>	

From Monday 12th September, Mrs Shelton will be teaching the class on Mondays and Mrs Campbell for the rest of the week.

Thank you for support.

Mrs Campbell
Reception



your ongoing

and the
Team