

# Reception Newsletter : Autumn 1

The Early Years Team warmly welcome you to Reception and we hope you have had a fantastic summer break. The start of a new academic year is so exciting because it is where our partnership in your child's learning journey begins. During this Autumn half term, assessments of your child will be made so we can ensure to support each individual to reach their highest potential. Securing relationships and establishing routines are a vital part of ensuring a smooth transition period at this time of the year.

**Topic-** Our topic this half term is '*Can I Have A Dog Yet?*'. Within this topic your child will be learning about a variety of animals, with a particular focus on dogs. Children will be learning about pets and understanding the responsibility of looking after a pet.

**Book Bags-** Your child will receive a book bag at the start of the year. This must be brought to school everyday. Inside the book bag is a reading book, a reading log and high frequency words. Please keep these in your child's book bag all the time and bring the book bag to school everyday. There will be a cost for any lost or damaged resources. Important messages or letters may also be placed inside book bags so please check them daily.

**Reading books-** Your child will have their reading book changed once a week, please write a comment in the reading log once a week when your child has read at home. Initially, reading books will be picture books only. Picture books provide the opportunity for your child to take the lead to talk about pictures, characters and setting to develop their confidence and communication skills.

**High frequency and tricky words-** Also in the book bag are high frequency and tricky words. Please practise reading these words with your child regularly, a short burst doing a few everyday if possible.

**Outdoor learning-** Children enjoy outdoor learning opportunities every day so please ensure your child has the correct weather proof clothing. We ask for a pair of named wellies available on their peg all year round (keep in a carrier bag) and an appropriate coat.

We understand you may have many questions or queries at this time of the year, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Reception Team.

*Miss Adams - Class teacher, Miss Aveline - Teaching Assistant and Mrs Proffitt - Teaching Assistant.*

*In Communication and Language we will be talking about what different animals look like and how to care for animals.*

*In Personal, Social, Emotional Development we will be learning to follow new classroom rules and manage our behaviour in different situations.*

*In Physical Development we will be strengthening our fine and gross motor skills.*

*In Understanding the World we will be exploring our immediate environment.*

*In Expressive Art and Design we will be creating our own pictures in the style of our class artist 'Wassily Kandinsky'.*

## Dates for your diary

**Harvest Festival- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October (more details to follow subject to Covid)**

## P.E

It is school policy that every child has a white top, black bottoms and suitable footwear for weekly P.E lessons.

Please bring named kit in on a Monday. It will go home to be washed every Friday.

## Literacy

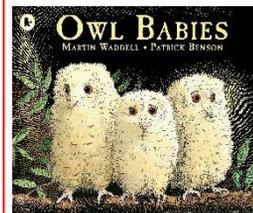
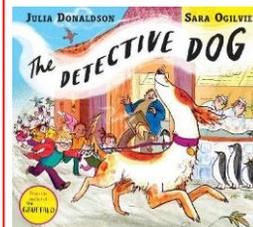
We will be exploring and promoting handling a range of different books around the environment to ensure your child develops a love for reading. Did you know, if you read just one book per day to your child, you will have shared 1825 books by their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday!

In phonics, we will start learning single sounds and practise pronouncing them correctly (phonetically)

This half term our book focuses will be:

'The Detective Dog' - Julia Donaldson  
'Owl Babies' - Martin Waddell (Class Author)

In writing, we work very hard in the first half term to develop secure pencil grip and will be practising many fine motor activities to strengthen hand muscles. We also focus strongly on name recognition and name writing skills. Practising name writing daily at home will really support your child's letter formation.



## Numeracy

In Maths, we will be learning to use number names correctly. We will be exploring numbers in different environments by going on number hunts and by chanting number rhymes. We will also be using number rhymes to help form numbers correctly. Throughout daily maths lessons, we will be focusing on securing touch counting skills by using familiar objects and reciting numbers. At home, you can support your child's learning by identifying numbers which are personal to them e.g. how old your child is now and what age they will be next and the number on your front door.



## Attendance and Punctuality

'Every Day Matters' - Every day that your child misses is a day of learning lost. The start time for Reception is **8:40am**. This allows time for children to settle in and hang up coats ready to start learning at **8:50am**. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends school every day and is in school ready to start their learning by **8.50am**.

## Homework

In Reception, 5-10 minutes of reading with your child should be completed every day. We ask for you to complete a comment in their reading log once a week, this will enable us to develop next steps for your child. Reading books will be reviewed and changed every Friday according to your child's reading ability. A teacher will leave one weekly comment in your child's reading log so assessment of your child's learning is shared. As books can be shared at any time of the week it is very important for reading books and reading logs to be brought to school **every day**. For any reading books which are damaged or not returned to school there will be a charge.

Along with reading books, children will also have high frequency words which they need to practise every day. Reception will also receive a piece of online homework relating to either maths or phonics learning which has taken place during lessons that week. This will need to be completed using Purple Mash.

Reception will receive their Topic Homework Challenges at the start of each half term. They have been designed so that parents and children can work together on homework tasks. We hope that you enjoy them.

Homework is given out on a **Friday** and is due back in school by **Wednesday**. This gives children an opportunity to speak to their teacher on Monday or Tuesday if there is something that they don't understand.