

Early Years Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2021

September 2021

The Early Years team are...

Class Teachers:
Mrs Mansfield
Miss Sharp

Additional staff:
Mrs Abbott
Mrs Herridge
Mr Cook

Sports Coach:
Mr Deverall

Key Dates To Remember This Term

INSET day	1st Sept
First Day of Term Reception	Thursday 2nd Sept
First Day of Term Nursery	Monday 6th Sept
Last Day of Term	Thurs 21 Oct
INSET day - school closed	Fri 22 Oct

A Warm Welcome

Welcome to the new school year! We hope the children are as excited as we are about the year of learning ahead. We can't wait to get started and get to know the new children. All children are different and some will settle in more quickly than others. If you do have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to speak to any member of staff. We are here to listen and to help in any way to ensure that your child's transition to school is a smooth as possible.

Settling in...

These first few weeks in school are spent helping the children understand routines and expectations of being in our Early Years Foundation Stage. It helps us if you encourage your child to understand the importance of listening carefully to adults and how to share and take turns.

The children are already doing so well in following the school routine, making new friends, playing and learning well together..

A few things to note...

Please can you use book bags to transport books and letters home instead of ruck sacks. Book bags fit neatly into the children's draws leaving coat hooks available for coats and jumpers.

We use wellington boots as our outdoor footwear for wet weather. We also teach the children to change their school shoes for wellingtons when using the mud kitchen and sand pit areas. If you haven't already, please provide a pair of named wellington boots and keep these on the boot rack by the classroom door.

We are lucky to have a large and lovely outdoor learning area. We ask that you help us to look after the area by not allowing your children to play before or after school on the equipment.

Thank you.

Stars of the Week

Each Friday afternoon we celebrate our Reception class stars of the week.
Children can be chosen for star of the week by any member of staff for doing something that has shone out that week. It could be an action like overcoming a fear, trying something new or being resourceful with equipment. It could be for kindness, politeness and good manners towards others. It could be for excelling in their learning, putting effort into their work or producing amazing learning in school or at home. We will share the stars for this term with you in our next newsletter.

Important Notices

Tapestry

Look out for an email from Tapestry. Tapestry is our online learning journal. We have been setting up the children's portfolios and parent access. You will receive an email asking you to set up a user account and password. Please follow the link and instructions within the email. Should you encounter any difficulties setting your account up, this video tutorial will talk your though the process

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7ROkDnb4I0&list=PLthyVDX1AWQJeGUqAna3ZEhEqbgjdx0Yt&index=1

If you have not received the email please check with a member of FSU staff that the email address we have for you is correct.

Morning Routines

The mornings can be a challenging time of the day, with all the pupils eager to start the day. Please help them build independence by saying good bye at the door, letting them hang up their coat and put away their book bags and water bottles. It helps to speed up entry into school if parents could say good bye to their child at the classroom door.

Further Communication

Keep an eye on our Communication board for messages affecting reception and nursery. We update our website weekly and the school office will email you newsletters, letters and other communications. Any queries please find a member of staff.



Wellington Boots

We ask that for the children to use the mud kitchen and the sand pit they will need wellington boots.
These will need to be named and can be left at school in the wellington holders outside of Donaldson classroom.

PE Day

PE for Reception and Nursery is on a Tuesday
morning with either our sports coach Mr Deverall or Mr Cook.

Name Belongings

Please name all of your child's belongings clearly.

Show and Tell

The show and tell box is kept on top of the children drawers. If your child brings in something to talk about, please make it relevant to our topic, learning or an out of school award/achievement.

Home Learning

In Reception children are expected to practice their reading at home. By half term, all reception children, will have a reading scheme book to take home. These books start with pictures to stimulate discussion, use to tell a story and pick out points of interest naming items. Books will progress to word books as the child learns to apply their phonics knowledge to blending sounds to read. Reading books are changed every Tuesday, please write in your children record books a short note to let us know how they got on with their reading at home.

Some words do not follow the phonics code and we call these 'tricky words'. You will find a bookmark of tricky words to practice with your child appear in their reading books once we have introduced these at school.

The children will also be given a phonics homework pack. These are a simple phonics work sheet that supports the sound taught in school that week. A new worksheet will be added every Tuesday.

Here is an overview of what we will cover in the curriculum this term.

'Amazing Me'

Our focus this term is settling in and getting to know the children, their skills and their interests. We carry out discrete assessments to find out what the child know already and use this to plan the next stage of their learning. During this topic we celebrate everyone being different and unique. We look at people in the community who help us and consider some real life heroes. Later this term we will look at the Autumn season and Harvest. We will create autumn inspired art work, go on nature walks, collect fallen treasures and cook some 'Harvest' vegetable soup.

Literacy:



This the children will listen to a selection of fiction and non fiction books, including some of their favourite tales. Reception children will be introduced to phonics. They will learn the first set of letter sounds and the jolly phonics rhymes to match. While nursery children will practice developing their skills of listening and identifying sounds, and exploring rhymes.

Mathematics:



In math's we will be working with the children to find out what they already know! We will be counting, matching and recognising numbers to ten, and some may go beyond. The children will learn number songs and rhymes to sing in school and at home.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children will begin to explore a variety of construction materials and begin to use tools for a purpose. We will explore how different media can be combined to create new effects and how colours can be mixed to make new colours. In our art attack topic we will explore and recreate some art in the style of artists Mondrian and Kandinsky. We will paint with a variety of media including our hands!

Physical Development



In PE children will be developing their fundamental movement skills through games and activities delivered by our sports coach Mr Deverall. The children will begin to use one handed tools and equipment in class activities. They will begin to write using a variety of media and form letters and some will write their name.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



During the first term the children will become familiar with our school rules and routines. We work together to make a class charter and create a display for it in our classroom. The children are supported to develop friendships and form positive relationships with the adults.

Religious Education



This term we ask "Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?" We will learn about the creation story and how we can care for our wonderful world.



Understanding the World

We will be identifying and experiencing seasonal changes in the world around us. The children will be encouraged to share their ideas and experiences reflecting on past and present events in their own lives. Outdoor play is an essential part of the Foundation day. Please remember that in order for your child to take part in all activities safely they should wear sensible school shoes and have wellington boots for outdoor play.

Technology

Children will learn how to used applications to on ipads to play phonics games. They will work the laptops to create artist pictures in 2Simple software.