



CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2017

Reception



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Reception! A new, exciting term has just begun and we are looking forward to a fabulous year. It has already been a pleasure to spend time with your children and they have settled in very well so far. We hope your child will be happy in our environment, make lots of new friends and enjoy learning. We also hope to develop a close relationship with you, as parents, and offer opportunities for you to become more involved in your child's learning. The following information is a brief outline of some of the curriculum areas we will be studying this term. We hope you find it useful. Information about homework, PE and library book procedures is also provided.

Our topics for the Foundation Stage until Christmas will be 'Myself, Autumn, Celebrations and Festivals'. Of course, topics will also emerge surrounding the children's own interests. The statements below are taken from the Foundation Stage Profile, and are some of the areas of learning that we hope to develop this term.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Making Relationships

- ✚ Demonstrates friendly behaviour, initiating conversations and forming good relationships with peers and familiar adults
- ✚ Explains own knowledge and understanding and asks appropriate questions of others

Self confidence and self awareness

- ✚ Will communicate freely about home and community
- ✚ Confident to speak to others about their own needs, wants, interests and opinions

Managing Feelings and Behaviour

- ✚ Can usually adapt behaviour to different events, social situations and changes in routine
- ✚ Begins to be able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression

Communication and Language

Listening and Attention

- ✚ Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories
- ✚ Maintains attention, concentrates and sits quietly during appropriate activity

Understanding

- ✚ Responds to instructions involving two part sequence
- ✚ Understands humour eg nonsense rhymes

Speaking

- ✚ Extends vocabulary especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sound of new words
- ✚ Use talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events

Physical Development

Moving and handling

- ✚ Holds a pencil between a thumb and two fingers and can copy some letters
- ✚ Travels with confidence and skill on balancing and climbing equipment

Health and self care

- ✚ Dresses with a limited amount of support
- ✚ Shows some understanding that good practise with regard to exercise, eating, sleeping and hygiene can contribute to good health

Literacy

Reading

- ✚ Knows that print carries meaning and, in English, is read from left to right and top to bottom
- ✚ Hears and says initial sounds
- ✚ Uses vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experience of books

Writing

- ✚ Write their own name from memory
- ✚ Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint
- ✚ Uses clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence

Mathematics

Number

- ✚ Matches numeral and quantity correctly
- ✚ Selects the correct numeral to represent 1-5, then 1-10 objects, 10-20
- ✚ In practical activities and discussion, begins to use calculation

Shape, Space and Measure

- ✚ Uses positional language
- ✚ Orders two or three objects/items by length, weight or capacity
- ✚ Begins to use mathematical names for 2D and 3D shapes

Understanding of the World

People and Communities

- ✚ Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experience
- ✚ Knows some of the things that make them unique and can talk about them in relation to others
- ✚ Enjoys joining in family customs and routines

The World

- ✚ Can talk about some of the things they have observed
- ✚ Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change
- ✚ Talks about why things happen and how things work

Technology

- ✚ Knows how to operate simple equipment (eg turns on a CD player, takes a photo)
- ✚ Uses ICT hardware to interact with age appropriate computer software

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring and using media and materials

- ✚ Builds a repertoire of songs and dances and explores musical instruments
- ✚ Constructs with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources, tools and techniques

Being imaginative

- ✚ Creates simple representations of events, people and objects
- ✚ Captures experiences and responses with a range of media - music, dance, paint, words

RE

Our RE topics for this term are taken from the new religious programme - 'Come and See'. They are: **Myself, Welcome, Birthdays.**

As with all our work in the Foundation Stage, there will be a strong emphasis on practical activities, and learning through play in all religious topics. For more information please read the RE Parents' Newsletter.

Routines:

PE - PE kit to be brought to school on a **Monday** and taken home after each **Thursday** PE session. There will be no changing for PE during the first half term.

Homework: Homework will be given each **Friday** and should be returned by **Wednesday**. Homework may be returned earlier, but no later.

Library books - Library day will be each **Wednesday**. Children will be unable to take home a new book unless the previous one has been returned.

A **voluntary contribution** of 20p - 40p per week to cover incidental expenses such as baking, curriculum enhancements, children's treats, catering etc, is greatly appreciated, thank you. A box will be displayed in the outdoor area if you would like to contribute.

Treat day (biscuit) - every Friday 10p.

School visits: We plan to have a school visit each term. Last year we had a fabulous Christmas experience at **Whitehouse Farm** and would like to repeat the experience again this year, dates permitting. We would also like to visit **Washington Old Hall** to look at historical homes to compare them with our own. We will give more information once visits have been confirmed.

Nativity play: We will, of course, be celebrating the birth of Jesus with a nativity play. Dates will appear in the newsletter.

Here's hoping we have a fantastic term. There are lots of things to look forward to and hopefully activities parents can get involved in. Dates for 'Letters and Sounds' and 'Number' workshops are to be arranged once all parent interviews are complete.

With your help, I am sure we can make your child's Reception year a fabulous one.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Murray and Mrs Hill