



Burwell Village College Primary School

Reception Newsletter

Autumn 2018

Mrs Weaver-Smith, Miss Walker and Mrs Reeder

Induction

This is the first Reception Newsletter and we hope you will find it interesting and informative. A newsletter will be produced at the beginning of each term to inform you of the forthcoming areas of learning and any other important events and dates. We are delighted with how the children have settled into school life so far. Many thanks for your support at the beginning of each session when the children line up in the playground. We will be introducing a weekly drop in session on the first Monday of each month from 3.15 – 3.45 pm. Please feel free to pop in and have a look around or spend a few minutes chatting about your child.

Autumn Term

Literacy

In the Autumn term, we focus on developing speaking and listening along with basic Literacy skills. We learn a variety of rhymes, poems and songs. Children will participate in a daily session of phonics and will be encouraged to develop correct letter formation and pencil grip. They will enjoy looking at books, discussing pictures and picking out letter sounds as they learn them. Children will take turns to bring in their favourite story book and it will become 'The Book of the Week'. All children will have a turn at some point during the year.

Mathematics

This term, we practise recognising, writing and ordering numbers reliably to 10 and beyond. The children also develop their counting skills, matching a set to a given number and counting a given set. They will learn to sort, name and describe basic shapes and recognise and create repeating patterns. There will also be a focus on mathematical vocabulary used to describe size, weight and amounts. Basic addition and subtraction will be introduced through practical activities and fun games.

Topic

This terms topics will include: My Family, My Senses, My Body, Light and Dark, Family Celebrations and Christmas.

Physical Development

Reception B and C will have PE on Tuesday afternoon and Reception A will have PE on a Thursday afternoon. Please provide your child with a pair of navy shorts and a pair of suitable PE shoes e.g. old/ inexpensive trainers. Both will need to be clearly named and stored in a bag that can be kept on their peg. Could you ensure your child does not wear jewellery e.g. stud earrings and, if necessary, that there is something to tie their hair back. We will develop the children's skills such as co-ordination, throwing and catching and balancing through use of large and small apparatus. Children will also complete the Balance-ability training program. They will develop/ practise the skills needed to learn how to ride a bike with two wheels.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We help the children to settle into school and become familiar and confident with their new school environment. We help the children to make new friendships and learn the BVC's Golden Rules. We discuss expectations and appropriate behaviour in school and introduce the DOJO online reward system. You should have all received a DOJO invitation to join your child's class this week.

Communication and Language

We encourage children to share their thoughts and ideas with the rest of the class and provide lots of opportunities for children to develop their communication skills through a wide variety of play activities. We learn a variety of stories, songs and rhymes. Each week, there will be a specific topic that children will talk about both in school and at home in order to help widen their vocabulary. Each Friday, we will hold a 'Talk the Big Talk' session to share everything that the children have learnt. We will also have 'Wow Words' of the week related to the weekly topic too.

Understanding the World

We explore the school environment and provide equipment for children to create their own environments. We develop the ability to use the computer mouse, navigate a keyboard and to use the touch screen PC monitor through a variety of different programmes. This term, children will have the opportunity to compare their own home life with that of their friends.

Expressive Arts and Design

We extend children's experience and expand their imagination through the provision of pictures, paintings, poems, music, dance and story. We also provide opportunities for children to use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Important dates

Reception Parent Information Evening

Please come to our information evening on Tuesday 9th October at 5:00 - 6.00 pm to find out more about the Reception year.

Parent Consultations

You will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss progress so far. You will need to book online via the Tucasi system. If you have not yet received login information, please contact the school office.

Tuesday 6th November 3:30- 6pm

Thursday 8th November 3:30- 6pm

Literacy Parent Information Session

Please come along to our Literacy information session on Tuesday 30th October 6:00pm or Thursday 1st November 9:15am. A letter will be sent home soon. Please complete the slip and return to school. This meeting outlines how we teach phonics, reading and writing in school and will be very useful for helping your child at home.

Christmas Production

Wednesday 12th December 9:30am

A letter will be emailed home via the school office giving information about how to book seats for the performance.

Term Dates

Autumn term – Monday 10th September – Wednesday 19th December 2018

Half term – Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October 2018

General Information.

If you have query or problem to discuss, please let us know as soon as possible. The best time to see us is after school, or please pass a message to the teaching assistant on the playground in the mornings. Parents will be invited to help in the classroom after half term when the children have settled in, let us know if you'd like to help. If you do not hold a current DBS check, please speak to the school office for further information.

Staffing

Teachers

Mrs Weaver-Smith
Miss Walker
Mrs Reeder

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Catley
Mrs Dix (1:1)
Miss Clark
Miss Taylor
Miss Whyte

PPA Cover (Tuesday pm)

Mrs Pickles
Mrs Lee
Mrs Wolf

Helping at Home

When we start to teach letter sounds, phoneme cards will be sent home each week for you to practise with your child. Please cut up the sound cards and store them in your child's book bag. The cards can be used for letter sound recognition and making words. Each week, children will also have a 'Time to Talk' homework following a weekly theme linked to the class topic. Please find time each week to talk about the theme and introduce new vocabulary to your child. We will have a class follow up discussion on the Friday of each week.

We also encourage parents to help their children with various tasks, such as:

- Getting themselves undressed and dressed (including zips, buttons)
- Cutting skills
- Looking after their belongings
- Putting a coat on and fastening it up
- Sharing books together (talking about the pictures and picking out letter sounds)
- Practising name writing with correct letter formation
- Counting: reciting rhymes, counting objects and saying number names in order

Reading at Home

When your child is ready, they will bring a levelled reading book home each evening, together with a 'Reading Record' booklet. Please begin to build a 5-10 minute reading session into your child's day, at least 5 times a week. We will be giving you more information about how you can help your child at home during our information evening on Tuesday 9th October at 5.30pm.

There are links from the school website www.burwellvillage.cambs.sch.uk which enables parents to pay for school meals and school trips via Worldpay/Tucasi.