

Welcome

We welcome you to Reception and look forward to working in partnership with you and your child throughout the year. This letter is designed to inform you of class related issues and we will send a class newsletter to you every half term.

Topic News

This half term our topic is Our Wonderful World. During this topic we will spend the 1st 2 weeks settling the children in and celebrating how special we all are. These are the other areas we will cover.

Week 3	'Here are my Hands' - A chance for us to learn about our amazing bodies and how we are all different and special.
Week 4	Creation
Week 5	Noah's Ark
Week 6	My Home
Week 7	The Seasons/Autumn

Learning Journeys and 'WOWS'

We like to involve parents and other family members in recording significant achievements your child is making in their learning at home.

We ask you to record these on 'WOW' slips which we keep in a box as you enter the classroom. These 'WOWS' are shared with the class on a daily basis and are displayed on our 'WOW Wall.' We then stick these into your child's 'learning journey' book. We firmly believe that working together in this way helps the children value everything they do, both at home and at school.

Also, at the beginning of each day, your child's learning journey book is available for you and your child to share. This enables your child to show you any pieces of work they are particularly proud of and allows you to stay informed of your child's progress on a regular basis.

'Show and Tell' days

Our 'show and tell' day will be **every Friday**, starting on September 23rd. These sessions provide your child with the chance to show something of interest they have brought in from home. Please do not send very precious items into school as we do not want any of the children to become upset if something they value gets damaged or lost. Thank you.

Reading Books

We ask that your child's reading bag is in school every day, because as well as containing the reading and phonics books, it provides us with a way to send letters and tasks home. We read regularly with the children in Reception and the main reading scheme we use is 'Oxford Reading Tree.' We ask you to read and comment on your child's reading daily. This way we can change your child's books frequently and help them make steady progress. Reading need not take long. 5-10 minutes of quality time is realistic for children of this age. Your comments are of value to us and if there is no comment, or if you have not signed the book, we will assume that your child has not yet read with you, and so the book will not be changed.

Phonics Book

Together with the reading books that your child brings home that will need to stay in their reading bag, we also send home a red 'phonics book,' which contains the sounds we have covered in class during the week, together with the action that helps the children learn these sounds. Please ensure that this book also remains in the bag and that every time you read with your child, you also go over these sounds.

Thank you.

Named Fruit

Please can you ensure that your child has a named piece of fruit every day. Please help your child get into the routine of placing their fruit in our fruit tray when they arrive at school. The children are given a piece of fruit in the afternoon

Reception Parents' Meeting

We would like to invite you to a Welcome Meeting on **Monday 19th September at 2.45pm**. This will give an opportunity for you to ask more questions and for us to give you more information on the Reception year.

Our Class Bears

Over the coming weeks, your child will be getting to know our class bears, 'Spencer and Star.' Every Friday from September 30th onwards we will send our 2 bears home together with a bear diary on a rota basis. If your child brings a bear home, inside the enclosed 'bear diary' will be some guidance notes and a page for your family to complete. We ask that you return the bear and the diary on the following Monday. Our aim is that by the end of the year, every child will have brought both of the bears home.

Parent in Partnership Tasks

As a way to help you support your child with their numeracy work, and to keep you informed of our weekly maths work, we send home a task for you to complete with your child. We ask that you support, and if necessary, extend your child during these tasks and comment on how your child has coped. We ask that you return these tasks every Monday or if you like to keep the weekends free, any day during the following week. The tasks are then shared with the class and any comments you make are read out.

We will send the 1st task home on Thursday 15th September (older group)
Friday 16th September (younger group)

Thank you.

PE

We have PE sessions regularly and ask that your child's PE kit is in school at all times. We also ask that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name. Thank you.

Reception Class Assembly

The children will be presenting their 1st class assembly at 2.30 on **Wednesday 5th October**. We would be delighted to see as many of you there as possible.

Echo Photograph

Please note that the Echo run a 'First Class' feature and take photos of the Reception classes in the area. Please let us know as soon as possible if you **do not** want your child to feature as if you do not inform us we will assume we have your consent. Thank you.

The Reception Team

Mrs Evans
Mrs Dunning
Mrs Brown

