Autumn Term 2026 Curriculum Newsletter for children in Reception

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children are settling in so well in Reception and are doing a great job of learning the new routines and making new friends. We want all of the children to feel happy, safe and secure in order for them to flourish and be successful learners. Therefore, we are teaching them how to independently use the inside and outside classrooms and showing them how to fully engage with all of the activities provided for them. These next few weeks our staff will be getting to know your child really well, identifying their strengths and their next steps for learning. We will also be introducing our Learning Superheroes and teaching the children about their characteristics so they can start to be Superhero Learners too! In the first few weeks we will be doing the Government's Baseline Assessment with your child. Please follow the link for parents to find out more about this.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents

Communication

If you would like to talk to your child's teacher about anything there is an opportunity at the door at the end of the day every day. Please can you remind your child that if they have any worries or concerns to let an adult know straight away so we can sort the problem out for them during the school day.

Lunch

On **Monday 14th September** all children will have their first lunch at Cannon Lane. It is important that you pre-order them beforehand and you can do this up to a month in advance. Information about Parent Pay and how to do this will be coming out to you. You will not need to pay for your child's meal. If you would prefer your child to have a packed lunch, please ensure that you label their lunch bag and do not include any nuts or fizzy drinks.

Curriculum Workshop

The first Curriculum Workshop for Parents is on **Wed 16th September 1.45-3pm.** This will provide an overview of the Early Years Foundation Stage and also some key pieces of information about how we teach your child in Reception. Please do attend the workshop to find out how you can support at home. We will also be holding a workshop for parents about our Phonics and Reading scheme called Little Wandle on **Wed 8th October 2-3pm**. This is another important workshop to attend. All slides from the workshops will be posted on the website for parents who work and cannot attend.

Snapshot of the Reception curriculum:

	**Personal,Social and Emotional Development** This term we will be teaching the children about the values we use to live and work with alongside each other in school. We will be motivating the children to help them to have confidence in themselves as learners. Children will have a fruit or vegetable snack every day and they have milk and water to drink.
	**Communication and Language** Speaking and listening is of huge importance and there is a big emphasis on the children listening to each other and responding appropriately. Children will be encouraged to speak in full sentences and to elaborate on their ideas. We want the children to extend their vocabulary through exposure to books and stories.
	**Physical Development** This term the children will be using a range of equipment to improve their co-ordination and fine motor skills, such as: cutting, sticking, painting, drawing and using play dough. The children will be developing their gross motor skills in both the inside and outside learning environments with a variety of activities. The children have PE lessons where they will be doing simple games based on spatial awareness, however they will not need PE kits.

	**Literacy** This term we will be teaching the children their letter sounds using Little Wandle Phonics. Phonics will be taught daily in class groups. Please read with your child regularly and write a comment in their reading record. Information about using the electronic books to do this will come out very soon. Teachers will write in the reading record after a Practice Reading session and provide a target for your child to work on. Please make sure that your child's reading book and reading record are in their book bag daily as they will be reading 3 times a week in school with an adult. Once the children are settled we will also have daily 'Funky Fingers' sessions to help improve children's fine and gross motor skills. These are fun and active sessions carried out to music. Children will be encouraged to write independently from the start and we will work with the children on their writing on an individual basis.
	**Maths** In Mathematics this term we will be covering basic number activities involving numbers with the use of games and practical activities. Please play number games with your children regularly at home to develop their number skills further. We will also be making patterns, and measuring size and shapes. The children will be given a Numbots log in to work on their number skills.
	**Understanding the World** This term the topic is called 'This is Me!' We will be talking about ourselves and how we have changed. We also want to talk about our families and where we live. After half term our topic is 'Help I need Somebody!' and then 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas'. We will be using non-fiction books to find out about the jobs people do and we would love for parents to come and talk to us about your jobs too! Please contact Mrs Waldron if you have a job that you could talk to the children about. We will also provide opportunities to develop your child's curiosity through science investigation and through questioning.
	**Expressive Arts and Design** The children will have daily opportunities to use their imagination when they draw and paint and we change our role play areas regularly to encourage the children to be more creative. The children will be given the opportunity to explore different instruments and the sounds that they make in music lessons. We support the children to use their creativity across all areas of learning and we love to see this in action in both the inside and outside learning environments.

Home Learning:
The Home Learning Matrix will be issued every half term. Children should complete at least one of the activities on the Matrix and be prepared to share this with the class in the last week of term. There will also be phonics home learning set linking to what your child is doing in class. This will be done through Google Classroom. Watch this space for your log in in order to access this system. More details to follow.

Reading
Please read with your child every day. Electronic reading books that are allocated to you will follow our Little Wandle scheme and will be fully decodable for your child. Children should be encouraged to explore a range of books and media. The children will be having a library book to enjoy at home. Library sessions for Reception are on a **Friday**. On this day please put the library book back in the bookbag.

Finally, please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please feel free to speak to me if there is anything I can help with and I look forward to getting to know you all.

With best wishes,
Mrs Waldron (Assistant Headteacher)