



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

April 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support throughout our whole school theme of 'Alice in Wonderland'. The Reception class are really starting to take control of their own learning and continue to show enthusiasm to all areas of learning. Exploring Alice in Wonderland has allowed us to look at different environments, both fantasy and real, and to look at the structure of books. This letter will outline what we are looking at for next half term.

### **INTERGRATED CURRICULUM**

Next half term we will be focusing our learning around the topic 'Reception in Space'.

We will be looking at, and basing the learning around, a range of topics that relate to space topics such as:

- Planets
- Aliens
- Light and sound
- Rockets and Astronauts
- Stars and the sky

We will continue to incorporate your child's interests in to our planning so please let us know if your child has a new hobby or interest that we can all learn about!

### **HOME LEARNING**

Home Learning is continuing to be a huge success in Reception with some learning being truly outstanding. We would like to thank you for your support in any help you have given your child in their home learning. It is pleasing to see so many children going 'above and beyond' by doing more than expected in their learning. Please continue to bring in any other home achievements or work as we will gladly show these in class. A continued reminder that home learning, is given to children on a **Wednesday** and is expected to be returned on or before the following **Tuesday**.

### **CORE LEARNING SKILLS**

During the next half term our learning skills will focus on 'Thinking Skills'. Reception will focus on these 'I can' statements:

- I can extract information from various sources when directed to them, e.g. Pictures/TV programme/a story.
- I can sequence pictures that tell a story and some events in my own life.
- I can recognise similarities and differences between things.
- I can starting to identify when I have done some good work and also how something I did could be better.

To support your child's learning you may wish to follow some of these learning skills at home.



## **READ, WRITE, INC**

We are starting to see some major progression in the children's reading and writing development. Children are starting to apply their Read, Write Inc. knowledge in other areas of learning (such as writing warning signs in the Role Play area). We value your efforts at home in helping children recognise their sounds and supporting your child with their reading books.

## **ORBIT/ALL ABOUT ME BOOKS**

Thank you to all parents that are using Orbit to upload any activities your child has been doing at home. Please remember that this is a two way programme which allows you to see our inputs in school and for you to upload any activities you do with your child at home. Your postcard uploads help us to build up a wider picture of your child's learning at home. If you are having any issues with signing up, uploading postcards or accessing school assessments, please contact a member of the Reception team.

We are also asking for your child's **All About Me** book to be returned on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014**. This will be used as a learning topic to discuss all the exciting things your child has done since starting school. If you are in need of a new 'All About Me' book please contact a member of the Reception team.

## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Our PE sessions will continue to take place during **Wednesday** mornings. We continue to ask that you ensure a PE kit is in school at all times, which is clearly labelled with your child's name. It may be worth checking your children's clothes are still clearly labelled as this encourages the children to be independent and avoids any confusion. A reminder that jewellery is not permitted in school however stud earrings are acceptable if they are covered with plasters provided from home for PE lessons.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

It is vital that all items of your child's clothing are named, including shoes. As personal items are difficult to recognise, it will enable members of the team to identify your child's clothing immediately. If unnamed items of clothing are found, they will be placed in the Lost Property box in the children's cloakroom.

## **SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**

Please check that the office has your correct e-mail address if you have chosen to receive any school correspondence such as newsletters electronically. Also check with your e-mail account that school emails are enabled and not being filtered into the spam folder.

Please continue to check the parents' notice board for additional information. We will happily give copies of this information to parents who are unable to pick up or drop off their child at school. If you wish to speak to members of the Reception Team, we will continue to be available from 8:45-8:55am and 3:15-3:25pm. For longer discussions please make an appointment at the office.

Thank you once again for your support throughout this half term,

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team

Mr Alletson  
Class Teacher

Miss Greenwood  
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds  
Head Teacher

