



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support throughout our whole school theme of 'Reception in Space'. We have enjoyed looking at all the different planets, stars and objects in space and how each planet is different. The Reception children have really grown in confidence and maturity throughout their Reception year. It has been fantastic to see how much progress, achievement and independence the children have developed during their final year of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This letter will outline what we are looking at for their final half term in Reception!

### **INTERGRATED CURRICULUM**

Next half term we will be focusing our learning around the topic 'All Creatures Great and Small'.

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

- Minibeasts
- Exploring our Gardens
- The Jungle
- The Ocean
- The Skies
- Underground
- The Deserts

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!

### **SACREWELL FARM**

The children will experience a variety of activities that involve hands on experience of habitats. This in particular includes our class trip to Sacrewell Farm, joined with the Year One class. Here the children will be able to see a variety of farm animals, as well as go pond dipping, have a tractor ride, and observe a working farm. A reminder that our trip to Sacrewell farm is on **25<sup>th</sup> June 2014**. Many thanks to the responses received so far, as we now have enough adults to support our trip. If we require your help with the trip, a member of the Reception team will have confirmed this with you. If you have not sent the reply slip for your child, please send this back as soon as possible.

### **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 'Speaking and Listening'. Reception will focus on these 'I can' statements:

- I can use simple phrases and statements to communicate my ideas
- I can use every day vocabulary naming most common objects, using action words and a range of descriptive words
- I can listen to a story, sitting quietly and looking at the speaker
- I can follow a range of simple instructions and carry out simple messages

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

## **HEALTH CARE**

As the warmer weather is (hopefully) fast approaching, we are encouraging children to think about how to take care in the sun. We are advising children to bring a sunhat to school, which is clearly named, to wear during outdoor play activities. If your child requires sun cream throughout the day, please provide a member of the Reception team with a named bottle to store safely in the classroom. Your child must be able to apply the sun cream by themselves, under supervision of an adult.

## **TRANSITION TO YEAR ONE**

A large part of next half term will involve preparing your child for their journey into Year 1. The whole school will take part in a 'Move Up day' on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014**. On this day the children will meet their Year 1 teacher and will have the opportunity to explore their new classroom. This is a great chance for the children to experience a day as a Year 1 child.

To help support a smooth and easy transition, we ask that parents begin to support their children through entering the classroom independently in the morning. This will prepare your child ready for Year 1, when parents are asked not to enter the classroom in the morning. If you need to discuss anything with an adult, a member of the Reception team will be outside the cloakroom door. If you have any concerns or would like more information on how to support your child through this transition, please let a member of the Reception team know so we are able to offer some guidance.

## **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 continued support throughout the Reception year.

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team

Mr Alletson  
Reception Teacher

Miss Greenwood  
Reception Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds  
Head Teacher

