



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

October 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

A huge thank you for your ongoing support in settling your child into school and for encouraging a positive start to their schooling lives. We are continually impressed with children's behaviour in Reception and their enjoyment of school so far. All children enjoyed the 'All About Me' theme and have learned a lot about their peers, teachers and themselves. This letter will briefly outline what we will be looking at in Reception during the next half term.

MAIN LEARNING THEME

Next half term we will be under a theme of 'In the Forest'. We will be looking at, and basing the learning around, a range of forest themed books such as:

- The Gruffalo
- Owl Babies
- We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- The Gruffalo's Child

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!

POW PROJECT

Our 'POW Project' for our theme of The Gruffalo is to create your own 'Gruffalo cave'. To do this, you may wish to draw a picture of what you think a Gruffalo cave would look like or create a model of a cave using real natural materials (such as leaves and conkers). Think about how you would like your cave to look; will it be dark, cold and scary or light, warm and comfortable? Any projects returned to school will be displayed in our POW project area so everybody in school can admire your hard work! We are also still encouraging the use of 'All about Me' books, feel free to take these home as and when you need them. Please inform a member of the Reception team if you need a new book.

READ, WRITE, INC

The Read Write Inc programme is proving successful with the children and we are seeing huge progression from all children in the Reception Class. All children are keen to learn the new sounds and show enthusiasm when in a Read Write Inc session. We are now focusing much more on Fred Talking the learned sounds alongside learning the new sounds. Your continued support through the Read Write Inc booklets is highly valued and has helped us understand the support we need to give to your child. Playing simple games such as 'I Spy', going on a sound hunt or helping your child to recognise letters in their home environment will help to reinforce the sounds your child has been learning.



ORBIT

As you are aware, the Reception team aim to provide high quality observations through the use of the Orbit assessment application. We thank all the parents that have been very keen in signing up and keeping track of the observations we have produced. A gentle reminder that your Orbit account allows you to upload observations from home in the form of 'post cards'. Any post cards we receive will help the Reception team become more aware of your child's out of school learning and we can use these as a discussion point with your child. If you have any problems with signing up or uploading post cards to the Orbit site, please inform a member of the Reception team.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Physical Development time will continue to be Wednesday mornings; however children will have access to develop their physical skills through the indoor and outdoor areas. We continue to ask that you ensure a **clearly named** kit is in school at all times. The kit uniform includes:

- A suitable bag to remain on your child's peg
- Plain white t-shirt
- Black/Grey shorts
- Plimsoll/Trainers
- Black/Grey jogging bottoms

A reminder that all long hair should be tied back and stud earrings are to be covered with plasters (that are provided from home); all other forms of jewellery are **not** permitted.

LOST PROPERTY

It is vital that **all items** of your child's clothing are named, including shoes. As personal items are difficult to recognise, named items 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 which you are welcome to search through.

LUNCHTIMES

To remind you that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. These are provided by a contracted catering company, M & B Caterers, and our children have a choice of a hot meal or 'Funky Five'. We hope that you are happy with the lunches your children are receiving and if you have any suggestions as to how we can improve this provision, please do let the school office know.

Thank you once again for your support throughout this half term and for a positive start to school.

Yours sincerely,
The Reception Team

Mr L Alletson
Class Teacher

Miss J Greenwood
Teaching Assistant

Miss K Gasson
HLTA

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

