



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first curriculum newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely holiday and your children are ready to start their first term in reception! We can't wait to meet them. Our topics this term will develop as the term progresses based on the children's interests but we will start with finding out about ourselves and looking at traditional tales. We will begin by looking at the story of the three Billy Goat's Gruff.

INITIAL LEARNING THEME – All about me and traditional tales

The main focus for the learning will be:

- Communication language and literacy – role play the Three Billy Goat's Gruff Story, making wanted posters for the troll, listening to the story, using puppets, writing our names
- Mathematics – counting up 10 forwards and backwards, one more one less
- Physical Development – building bridges and balancing
- Understanding the world – building dens to hide from the troll, growing cress, observing seasonal fruits
- Expressive arts and design - making traps for the troll, self-portraits, painting our soft toys, making glitter names, songs and rhymes
- Personal Social Emotional Development – all about me, learning children and adult names, making friends

READING

The children will be learning about rhymes and pre reading skills this half term. The children will bring a library book home for you to share with your child. We are really looking to promote a real enjoyment of books so anything you can do to support this will be helpful (there is nothing like a good bedtime story!). As the term progresses we will introduce different sounds. We will place the sounds we are looking at on the parent notice boards. There is one in the cloakroom and one in the outside area.

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

During this term, the foundation team will be putting on three parental workshops. These will cover;

- Mathematics – 6th October 09.00 – 10.30
- Communication, Language and Literacy – 13th October 09.00 – 10.30
- Early Years Curriculum and Assessment – 20th October 18.00 – 19.30 (This will be in 2 parts. The first half will cover the Early Years Curriculum and the second half will go over the information on Mathematics and Literacy for those parents who missed the workshops)

The sessions will involve listening to an information session on each aspect and then spending time in the classroom working alongside you child. I'm sure these will prove invaluable in understanding out approaches to learning.

PE

PE in reception will take place throughout the week initially in small groups so we ask that the children bring in their complete kit (including plimsolls/trainers) on a Monday, and leave this at school until Friday. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back for safety reasons. Any earrings (studs only are allowed in school) will also have to be removed (**by the child**) or covered with a plaster (**which must be supplied from home**).

Your child will require the following PE kit (**Clearly named**):

- Plain White t shirt
- Black/Grey shorts

Finally I would like to wish you all a fantastic half term, the reception team will be working hard to ensure your children settle well into school and are happy. Before we close, over the Summer I happened to come across two poems (attached) and thought they may reassure you that we have your children's best interests at heart.

Mrs Hainsworth
Class teacher

Miss Greenwood
Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Woods
Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher



Dear Teacher

I know you're rather busy
First day back, there's just no time
A whole new class of little ones
And this one here is mine

I'm sure you have things covered
And have done this lots before
But my boy is very little
He hasn't long turned four

In his uniform this morning
He looked so tall and steady
But now beside your great big school
I'm not quite sure he's ready

Do you help them eat their lunch?
Are you quick to soothe their fears?
And if he falls and hurts his knee
Will someone dry his tears?

And what if no-one plays with him?
What if someone's mean?
What if two kids have a fight
And he's caught in between?

You're right, I have to leave now
It's time for him to go
I'm sure he'll learn so much from you
Things that I don't know

Yes, I'm sure they settle quickly
That he's fine now without me
I know he has to go to school
It's just so fast, you see

It seems like just a blink ago
I first held him in my arms
It's been my job to love, to teach
To keep him safe from harm

So, when I wave goodbye in a moment
And he turns to walk inside
Forgive me if I crumple
Into tears of loss and pride

I know as I give him one more kiss
And watch him walk away,
That he'll never again be wholly mine
As he was before today

Dear Parent,

I understand that you are scared
to wave your child goodbye
and leave him in a teacher's hands
Don't worry if you cry!

I'm used to weeping parents
It's hard to leave I know.
But it's time to share him (just a bit)
To help him learn and grow.

Let me reassure you
That I'll give your child my best
I'll wipe his tears, soothe his fears
And change his dirty vest!

If your precious child is full of cold
I'll blow their nose all day
Just like you, I'll care for them
In a special way.

I'll treat him like I would my own
I'll catch him from a fall and
If there is ANY problem
I'll be sure to tell you all.

It's true he'll grow to love us
They'll talk of school a lot
It doesn't mean they hate you
And that you should lose the plot!

I'll tell you a secret.
That when your child is here
They talk to me as much of you
Of this please have no fear.

You'll always be their parent
Whilst teachers come and go
To them you are their number one
This I truly know.

Soon you'll see some changes
In your little girl or boy
They'll become more independent
And to see this, it's a joy!

I'll teach them all I have to give
To share, climb and to write
But to you they safely will return
To tuck them in at night.

