



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a really exciting start to school; the children have settled really well and have certainly found their feet! They have already learnt many school routines and are beginning to show us their interests and they certainly love outdoors.

MAIN LEARNING THEME

Learning next term will start with the book 'Funny Bones'. We will be looking at:

- My body
- Dinosaurs
- Pirates
- Night and day

We aim 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!

LITERACY – 'READ, WRITE, INC.'

At Norwood we have adopted Read, Write, Inc. as our phonics program to teach children early reading and writing skills.

The children have been learning a new sound each day and revising those taught at the end of every five days. We will send out the sounds and writing sheets each week to help support your child's reading and writing of the sounds at home. Working through this is completely voluntary but if the children complete this please send the sheets back into school or complete a 'WOW' slip so that we can share the children's successes.

MATHEMATICS AND BUSY TIME

Mathematics is delivered as a taught lesson every day for an hour. Next half term we will be focusing on numbers up to 10 to enhance your child's counting skills and understanding the value of individual numbers. We will also explore 2D shapes that are in our environment and we encourage this to be continued at home. You can do this by going on shape walks and pointing out different 2D shapes in your home, e.g. square for window and circle for wheel. Further math learning will be continued throughout our free flow time. During this time, your child will have access to all resources that the classroom provides and will learn through independent play. The Reception classroom is designed to provide learning across different areas, for example; an area for maths, creativity, reading and writing.

PE

We may choose other opportunities throughout the week for Physical Development. Depending upon the weather we will be using indoor and outdoor facilities and so it would be ideal for your child to have their full PE kit in school on Monday morning and ready to take home on a Friday.

The kit can be kept in a bag on your child's peg. The PE kit uniform includes:

- A PE kit bag
- Plain white t-shirt
- Black/grey shorts
- Plimsoll/trainers

Please ensure that all items of clothing that are in school are **clearly named** to avoid any confusion when changing. We ask that all long hair is tied back on a PE day. Jewellery is not permitted in school however if any earrings are unable to be removed, these should be covered by plasters provided from home.

WOW slips

During the recent parent workshops I introduced 'WOW' slips which are designed for you to complete if you see any examples of good learning at home. As parents we would like you to contribute to your child's profile. Lots of learning takes place with you. We would like information on your child's;

- Physical development e.g. can they swim or ride their bike without stabilisers
- Sounds e.g. are they spotting sounds in print at the supermarket
- Mathematics e.g. are they counting accurately, do they recognise shapes when they are out and about.
- Understanding of the world e.g. are they spotting changes in the seasons
- Creativity e.g. do they attend dancing classes, do they enjoy drawing
- Personal and social and emotional development e.g. do they share with brothers and sisters

I have placed copies of all handouts in a box in the cloakroom along with 'WOW'slips

Christmas Production

Just to give you all an early heads up, our Christmas production will be on the **9th December 2015 at 9.00am.**

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.

Just a final reminder to practice the children's sounds over half term, a week is a long time in the life of a 4 and 5 year old!

I look forward to meeting you all at parents evening.

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team

Mrs Hainsworth
Class Teacher

Miss Greenwood
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Woods
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

