

## Welcome to Reception

During the first couple of weeks we ensure that your child feels safe, happy and comfortable to come to school. We understand that this is a significant stage of your child's learning journey and see the importance of ensuring that they are confident within the setting and that they start to form relationships with our school staff and their peers.

## Forest School

We are extremely lucky to have extensive and well resourced grounds at Oak Meadow. During your child's time in Reception, we utilise the environment by providing weekly forest school sessions. These will start on the following dates:

**RB - Wednesday 15th September**

**RT - Thursday 16th September**

Forest school enables your child to explore nature, build their resilience, confidence and social skills, actively explore and learn about natural habitats and take appropriate risk. Forest school provides opportunity for your child to learn to think critically, assess risk independently and the importance of looking after themselves, their friends and the environment. Your child will explore in a variety of open ended activities such as tree climbing, den building, rope play, the fairy garden, the mud kitchen and nature crafts. Waterproof clothing and wellingtons are provided for your child to wear.

# Reception Autumn Term

## Phonics and Literacy

Our school fosters the Read Write Inc (RWI) phonics scheme. Within the Autumn term, we teach the RWI set 1 sounds, where your child will associate a sound to a letter. We also encourage your child to write whether that is forming letters or mark making. The RWI set 1 sounds are taught in the following order:

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e,  
l, h, sh, r, j, v, y, w, th, z ch, qu, x, ng, nk

In addition, your child will take part in fun and engaging activities to help build their fine motor skills, which helps to develop the hand muscles that are used to hold a pencil correctly. Examples of these activities are – squeezing pegs, using tweezers, manipulating playdough and threading objects.

## Reading

Each week, we have a focus book, which will be chosen alongside the children's interests or linked to a particular topic or event.

Within the first couple of weeks, reading books will be given out for you to read and discuss with your child.

## Maths

In Reception, our aim is to ensure that your child has a holistic and secure understanding of number and the different counting principles. Within the Autumn term, our maths focus will consist of the following strands:

- ◆ An in-depth understanding of numbers 0 to 5. During this time, your child will see, represent, use and understand the concept of each individual number. This creates an important foundation of number sense, which is then built upon throughout the year.
- ◆ Sorting items into groups. This allows your child to see similarities and differences with objects and numbers to then build to compare numbers and quantities.
- ◆ Comparing groups within 5. This enables your child to learn to subitise (see the total of objects without counting) rapidly, which will deepen their understanding and highlight connections, which will enable your child to foster a strong sense of number.
- ◆ One more and one less. Within this strand, your child will be more fluent in the sequence of numbers and explore quantities.
- ◆ Time. This allows your child to have a good understanding of their day and use mathematical language such as 'before' and 'after'.

### Home Learning

Homework is linked to our book of the week or our phonic and maths focus. It is usually set on a Friday, to be returned by the following Wednesday please.

### Additional Ideas for Home

Here are some ideas that you can do at home to help further your child's learning.

- ◆ Play games encouraging turn taking
- ◆ Share stories and discuss their favourite part or character
- ◆ Take part in listening games, such as eye spy
- ◆ Introduce fine motor activities that involve playdough, pegs, threading, painting, tweezers, cutting and pincer movements
- ◆ Encouraging independence when getting dressed

### Social Moral Spiritual Cultural

We will be working towards the completion of our Reception Cultural Capital Journey. We have collated fifty activities and events that we will be completing throughout the year.

These are linked to our core school values - more than me, healthy body, healthy mind, I see, I wonder, rise to the challenge, express yourself.

There is a copy of our Cultural Capital Journey in your child's reading diary.

### P.E

P.E lessons will take place on a Wednesday for both classes. Please ensure that **all** items are clearly named. Thank you.

We will be starting the year by practising getting changed into P.E kits. Therefore, we ask that you encourage your child to get dressed independently.

P.E lessons will consist of various games and activities that focus on spatial awareness, gross motor skills and balancing.

### Save the Date!

Important dates to follow.