

# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1

## NOTE FROM THE TEACHER



0208 689 7679

Welcome back to all of our returning families and a very warm welcome to those who are new to the Trust. It has been great to see how quickly the children have started to settle in as they embark on the next stage in their learning. We like to write to you to keep you informed of what your child will be learning about as well as to make you aware of any upcoming events. Our topic this half term is 'Marvellous Me' where the children will have the opportunity to learn and share what makes them, their families and their friends special.

## WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

### Communication & Language

Over the next half term, the children will be reciting some everyday nursery rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty and listening to stories. All of this work will help to develop their speaking and listening skills as well as their 'story telling' language. Through reading family-themed texts the children will develop their communication and language skills and begin to understand how stories are structured.

### Personal, Social & Emotional Development

So as to get the year off to a great start, the children will be learning all about their new environment and the rules and routines associated with it. They will specifically learn how to show positive behaviours both in their learning and in their interactions with peers and adults, through being taught how to take turns and share with support when using toys and equipment.

### Physical Development

We will be working on spatial awareness, using large and small body movements and travelling in different ways safely. The children will also get to recognise different parts of their bodies and how they can use these in their movements. We will also be spending time in class on activities that develop the children's fine motor skills and build the strength in these to hold a pencil effectively.

### Literacy

This half term, we will be sharing the books 'So Much' (by Trish Cooke), 'We Feel Happy' (by Katie Abey), 'Oi Frog' by (Kes Gray) and 'The Leaf Thief' (by Alice Hemming). When working on key texts, the children will be encouraged to verbally tell their own stories and begin to write them through the use of marks, symbols and emerging letter shapes.

When teaching phonics we use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics scheme. Through the use of this programme, we will be learning the sounds of the letters. For parental support from Little Wandle on how to pronounce the sounds please visit:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>.

During our curriculum workshop we will explain how we teach phonics so that you can help support your child with this learning at home.

## Maths

In mathematics, we will be learning to count, recognise and write numbers to five. We will be doing this in a very practical way by learning number songs and counting small objects. The children will be learning how to compare numbers and begin to use vocabulary such as 'more' and 'fewer'. A parental workshop for the teaching of maths will also be available this term. Keep checking the website for updates.

## Understanding the World

In this area of learning, we will be observing the world around us, in particular our new immediate environment and asking questions about why things happen and how things work. We will be getting to know the staff at school and what they do, so that we know who to speak to if we need help.

## Expressive Arts & Design

In art and design, the children will be creating their own self-portraits using a range of different media. They will be familiarising themselves with the features of theirs and others' faces. Whilst doing so, the children will develop their cutting skills and hand-to-eye coordination as well as exploring the properties of materials. They will learn how materials can be manipulated and combined to create a finished product to be proud of!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Reception Curriculum Meeting:** Thursday 1st October at 9:15



**Parents' Evenings:** Monday 5th October & Wednesday 7th October 3:30– 6:00



**Individual and sibling photos:** Friday 13th November