

Autumn 2021 – Curriculum News

September 2021

Welcome

Reception marks the beginning of your child's education and brings a time of mixed emotions for children, parents and staff, creating feelings of excitement, anticipation and expectation. The first few weeks of school life are very valuable in getting to know each other and becoming familiar with the school routines.

As our Reception children begin to explore their new environment staff are busy getting to know each child finding out what they enjoy and are interested in, what they are confident in and where they may need a little bit more support. During this period, we carry out a range of assessments to inform future planning and learning. This enables us to create challenging and appropriate activities for all our pupils.

We are really excited about our theme this term... 'Jolly Journeys'. Throughout the term children will be learning about different ways of travelling and different places to travel to. They will take part in a range of engaging cross-curricular activities to enhance their understanding and to find out about the country their class is named after.

Phonics

Children will have daily phonics sessions and lots of opportunities for writing. Please help your child write their name independently using a capital letter followed by lower case letters. On the 30th September there will be a meeting for all parents to provide you with information and guidance on how you can support your child at home. This is a very valuable session as it will include how we teach reading, phonics and handwriting in school.

Reading

Once children are settled into the school routines we will send home a reading book and they will be heard read once a week at school individually by a member of the Reception team. Please ensure your child has their book bag in school every day as they may not be heard read the same day each week. Books will be sent home on a Thursday then collected in on the following Monday. Please leave a comment in your child's reading log each time you have listened to them read.

Rainbow Challenges



These are additional challenges that you may like to complete with your child at home to support this term's theme.

Go for a ride on a bus and draw a map showing where you went.

Create a painting using different vehicles.

Go to the library and find a book about going on a journey.

Write down the registration number of a vehicle then make one of your own for your bike or scooter.

Maths

Children will have a daily session of maths teaching. Please support your child with recognising numerals up to 10 then beyond to 20. Activities that you could engage in with your child include;

- Counting objects accurately.
- Predicting how many objects there are before counting them.
- Playing board games that involve counting.
- Playing card games such as snap or matching pairs with cards with numbers on not pictures.

PE

PE is on a Monday with our PE specialist Mr Newson. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit (jogging bottoms not shorts) and wearing appropriate footwear (trainers not plimsolls). PE will be in the hall. Long hair must be tied up and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons. If a child is wearing earrings they will not be allowed to take part.

Reception Staff

Australia Class

Mrs Mayes
Class teacher

Brazil Class

Miss Ogg
Class teacher

Chile Class

Miss Sparrow
Class teacher M, Tu, W

Miss Cordell
Class teacher Th, F

Mrs Edison
Cover Supervisor

**Mrs Whelan, Mrs Beadle
Hood and Mrs Harden**
Early Years Practitioners

Outdoor Learning

During the afternoon children will take part in our 'Discover and do' sessions and 'Welly Wednesdays'. For these your child will need a pair of named wellies to keep in school.



Save the date

Phonics Information Session 30th September

Two sessions will be offered.

1. On line via zoom.
2. In school following COVID guidelines.

Penguin Plod

(Outdoor Sponsored Event)
Thursday 9th December (AM)

Trip to Colchester Zoo TBC

Further information will be sent nearer the time for all of these events.