



Gold Class – Autumn Term Newsletter 2023

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

Welcome to all our new Reception children and parents and welcome back to those who were in our nursery last year. We hope that you had a good summer and are ready for the exciting year ahead of us.

The children have settled in beautifully and we are so proud of their independence in the mornings.

The Reception team are:

Mrs Trollope (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning)

Mrs Nethersole (Wednesday afternoon, Thursday, Friday)

Mrs Downey (Everyday)

Mrs Ali (Mornings, except Tuesday)

Mrs Das (Tuesday morning)

Mr Peck (Mr Peter) (Mornings)

Mrs Burke-Adams (Afternoons)

Curriculum focus

Our theme for this term is 'Knowing me, knowing you' where we will be getting to know each other and talk about ourselves and our lives. We will learn about our families, our traditions, our likes and dislikes. Our activities will be based on the children's interests. We will find out about our school, its' history and the people who work here. We will learn about where we live, our houses, our town and our country.

We will also be learning about Autumn, Harvest, Diwali, Hannukah and Christmas. If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning, please do let us know.

PSHE (Personal, social and health and education) sessions this term will focus on settling in, being independent and how we are feeling.

RE

We will be learning about Christianity and Islam this term following the Hertfordshire agreed syllabus of R.E

Phonics

In Reception we will be learning our sounds every day, following a scheme called Time for Phonics (please see link below) based on the programme Letters and Sounds. The children will learn up to 4 sounds every week. The sounds of the week will be announced via a sticker in their reading records.

We would like the children to bring in items from home beginning with those sounds to talk about and display on our sound table.

<https://timeforphonics.co.uk/for-parents/>

Books

Children will bring home a library book once a week to share with you at home. These books will be changed on a Friday. Please send your child's book bag in **every day** as there may be other things such as letters or pictures to be sent home.

PE

PE this term will usually be on Thursdays and Fridays. However, please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school every day. Most children leave them on their pegs until half term when they will be sent home for washing.

Buddies

In Reception each child has a buddy from Year 5. The buddies have been helping the children at lunch time both in the dining room and outside. The Reception children and the Year 5 children really enjoy buddies and will have a chance to meet up every Friday.

Building Blocks

As you may be aware, we will be offering Building blocks sessions. These sessions give you an opportunity to learn about how and what your child is learning in Reception such as, the way we teach reading and writing through phonics as well as other areas of the curriculum. The sessions will take place in our Community Room situated next to our classroom. You will have a chance to learn alongside your child for part of the morning, but we regret no crèche facilities are available for younger siblings.

You will be invited to three, two hour sessions. Dates to be confirmed.

Craft and Cooking Contribution

To help us provide and replenish craft and cooking resources this term, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £6.00. Please return this in the envelope provided. Thank you.

Other contributions

We are always on the lookout for small cardboard boxes and other recyclable materials including buttons, ribbons, paper and card. We gratefully welcome these at any time in the term.

Reminders

Things to be left in school:

P.E kit and a bag with spare clothes to be left on their peg.

Things they will need every day:

Book bag

A water proof coat, a pair of wellies (which can be left at school or taken home)

Children's birthdays

We like to acknowledge each child's birthday. As part of the celebrating you are welcome to bring in small treats for the class (such as a box of raisins or small chocolate buttons). We will send these treats home with each child. **Please remember we are a nut free school**

Dates

Half term 23rd-27th October (INSET DAY 30th October). Children return to school on 31st October
Parent Consultations 18th & 19th October (Further information nearer the time)

Please see our website for other school dates and events.

Yours Sincerely

Mary Nethersole, Mrs Trollope, Mrs Downey and the Reception team