

The Great Explorers and The Amazing Adventurers

Hello,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your children to our Reception class. During this half term we will be exploring animals, farms and pets. We will also be getting to know your children and speaking lots to them about what they like to play with, what hobbies they have outside of school, what makes them feel happy and if anything makes them feel sad. We will be taking your children on a tour around the school and helping them to familiarise themselves with the building and with different staff who work at our school. We will also be spending lots of time talking about school routines, timetables and reinforcing our classroom rules to help your children to feel confident and comfortable within our Reception class. We will be learning lots about counting, recognising numbers and exploring 2d and 3d shapes.

We are very interested in your child's achievements outside of school and would love to know more about these. We give your children chance to share any exciting news they may have with the rest of the class. If your child has won a medal, gained a certificate or is proud of something they have created at home, please encourage them to come and talk to us about it.

We have an open door policy in Reception and we really value parental involvement. If you have any concerns or worries please feel free to come in and speak to a member of staff in Reception.

We have had a lovely first week with your children and they have all settled in beautifully and we are very much looking forward to getting to know your children throughout the school year.

Reading:

We aim to listen to children read twice a week at school. We will do this through hearing individual readers and during guided reading group sessions so we ask that your child's reading folder is in school every day. There will be a reading meeting very soon, more details will follow shortly.

Please can you read with your child as often as you can and write down any comments in their reading records, for example if they have enjoyed the book or a specific bedtime story and have recognised any words or sounds etc in a text.

Phonics:

We teach phonics in 4 groups in Reception and are currently working on four sounds a week for each group. In our phonics sessions, we play phonics games learn the letter sounds and actions from the Jolly Phonics scheme. You can help your child by encouraging them to think about the sounds in words and thinking of the sounds everyday things begin with, finding things with the same sound, for example: coat, car, cat etc.





Parent's Board:

We have a Parent's Board inside our classroom, it contains ideas of things you can do at home to support your child in their learning. We want you to be involved in your child's learning. There are post it notes for you to write on anything your child has achieved at home. If you have something you would like to speak to us about, but do not get chance to see us, feel free to write it on a post it note and stick it on the Parent's board (or just a note saying you would like to speak to us), then we will make sure we catch up with you. We will also update the Parent's Board with information you need to know, letters and homework sheets. Any questions, please ask!



Reading Eggs:

This is a great website to support your child's reading with lots of fun activities and games. It also tracks their progress. Reading eggs logins will be given to you within the next 2 weeks.

Gizmo and Barney

Gizmo and Barney are our class pets. Every Friday they will come home with a different child from our class and spend the weekend at their home. Please encourage your child to take good care of the dog and help your child read their favourite book with him. If possible please take a picture of them reading together, the more unusual the better! Your child will be given the opportunity to tell the rest of the class about the story they read with Gizmo and Barney, feel free to bring the book into school so we can share it with the rest of the class.



PE:

We have PE every **Tuesday**, can you please ensure your child has their kit with them on these days. If your child has pierced ears, can you **please ensure they are not wearing earrings on PE days** as we are not allowed to remove them in school, so if they are wearing them, they will not be able to do PE.



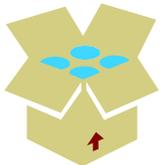
School Uniform:

PLEASE can you ensure that ALL of your child's school uniform (including shoes!) and PE kit has their name in!! This will mean anything lost can easily be returned to its rightful owner. With 60 children in our Reception classroom all wearing the same uniform, this is extremely difficult, particularly on PE days, if clothing does not have names in.



Homework:

Our homework format involves choosing a number of different activities related to our topic, from a list, to be completed over the course of the half term. If you haven't had a homework list, please see a member of staff.



Boxes:

If you have any boxes, plastic bottles, kitchen roll tubes etc. (not toilet roll tubes please) you can bring in for our making box, we always appreciate more things for making models!



If you have any questions about the things we do at school, please feel free to come and talk to us! Thank you.