



Reception Newsletter

Friday 13th September 2024

Another busy week has passed by and I am so pleased with how the children have settled in. They have done so well getting used to the routines of school and our classroom. They are certainly ready to come in full time next week!



The children have started to think about Harvest this week in our Religious Education lessons and how it is a special time for Christians; it is a time when they thank God for what he has provided us with. We read 'The Gigantic Turnip' and discussed how plants and vegetables grow. The children enjoyed creating pictures by printing with various different fruits and vegetables. We read the 'Creation Story' from the Bible and 'A Wet and Windy Harvest for Puddles' which is about a church Harvest Service. The children sang some Harvest songs and are now looking forward to our school Harvest Festival at the end of this term.

The children have practised counting and matching a number of objects to numerals. We have used the following website this week: -

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

On the Topmarks website we focused in particular on the Underwater Counting Game and Ladybird Spots, but there are many more the children may enjoy playing at home.

The children have enjoyed completing their Christmas pictures this week in preparation to go to the printers so they can be turned into Christmas cards etc. A separate letter regarding this will be going out, explaining how you can make a purchase.





I hope the children are enjoying their reading books from school, just a reminder that these will be changed once a week on a Friday, ready for the weekend. We will also be getting the children to pick a 'Sharing Book' from school on a Thursday. This is a book that they can share with you at home, not for them to read, but for you to read to them and enjoy. The children can keep the sharing book for a week and then return them to school on the following Thursday, then they can pick a new sharing book.

We will be having our first PE session on **Wednesday 25th September**, once the children are settled into their full day routine so please ensure that the children have their PE kits in school by that Wednesday please. On PE days please ensure earrings are removed (as we are unable to do this in school) and ensure long hair is tied back. Many thanks.

I would just like to share the morning and end of the day routines in Reception as the children have been split into morning and afternoon sessions up until now and you may not be aware of these routines. In the morning the children come into school between **8.40am and 8.50am** and myself and my Mrs Mitchell will be on the gate to welcome the children in. I will be on the gate initially and then I will stay in the classroom with the children, completing an early morning activity until all the children have arrived. Then Mrs Mitchell will be on the gate to see the rest of the children in and across the playground. The gate will be shut at **8.50 am**. Please collect your children at **3:15pm** from the playground at the end of the day. The gate will be open from **3.05pm**.

At lunchtime Mrs Mitchell and I will be accompanying the children into the lunch hall and stay until the children are settled; we will do this for the first few weeks to get them settled and used to the lunch time routine. After the settling in period, I still take the children into the hall and stay for a while. Mrs Azzopardi will be their mid-day supervisor and she has popped into the classroom this week to introduce herself to the children. Children who are having packed lunch can place their lunch boxes on the trolley outside the Year 2 classroom which is just inside the door as they enter from the playground. We will show them where this is as we take them into school in the morning. Can I just remind you that you will need to pre-order your child's lunch (unless they are bringing a packed lunch) via your child's 'School Grid' account online. This needs to be done by 9am to ensure the kitchen receives all orders in time. You will see the lunch selection available each day and we find that ordering the lunch with your child is something they enjoy doing and it usually helps them remember what they are having. I am sure they will all love the lunches!



I have set all families up on Tapestry now, or hope I have! Please do let me know if you have not received an email to activate your account, sometimes there can be technical issues and sometimes the emails will go to your 'junk' folder so it may be worth checking there if you haven't received one. I will send the first observations this weekend; I hope you will enjoy looking at them and that this gives you a little insight into what the children get up to at school. We have certainly loved playing with the children and getting to know them in Activity Time over the last two weeks and look forward to having all 30 children together next week!

Just a little reminder that I will be holding a Phonics Information Evening on **Wednesday 2nd October at 6pm** in the Reception classroom for all parents with Mrs Mitchell. We do hope you can all make it as it will be lovely to share our Phonics Scheme with you and provide you with information about how we teach phonics and reading in Reception. A separate letter regarding this will be coming out shortly.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend! I look forward to the whole class joining together on Monday ! ☺

Best wishes,

Mrs McKiernan

