

Dear Parents/Carers

I think you will all agree that the children have a great start to the new academic year. They have settled well and it has been a delight to see such positive relationships forming with both children and adults. I would just like to share with you some of their next steps and what you can expect to see happening over the next few weeks.

Reading

This week your child has started their reading journey through daily phonic sessions and small group activities. Next week we will give your child their first reading book.

To start with your child's book will have no, or very few words. Please talk about the pictures, what is happening in the pictures, asking them what they think may happen next etc.

As we start learning our sounds your child will get new books, according to the sounds they have learnt. When you read with your child, please fill in the reading record, which will be kept in their book bag,

Books are changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If your child has read their book before it is due to be changed, please re read their book with them and continue to ask them questions about what they have read. Your child will read with an adult at least once a week, this will be recorded in their reading diary. Your child will also read during their daily phonic sessions, during small group activities and guided reading sessions.

Reading and Phonics Talk

We would like to invite you to a phonics talk, on Wednesday 5th October from 9am until 9.30am. We will explain how reading and phonics are taught in school, and discuss things that you can do to help at home.

Homework

During the reception year we encourage you to read with your child at home, ideally daily. This includes you reading to your child as well as them reading to you. Next week your child will be given a phonics folder which should be kept in their book bags. Every time a new sound is learnt, a worksheet will be put into their phonics folder. You can do these worksheets with your child, or just use them as a record of the sounds that your child has learnt. There will be a 'new word book' in the folder. Tricky words and common words will be written in the book as they are learnt. You can practice reading and writing these words with your child at home.

PE

PE will be taught on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school on this day. We would like to ask that all items of clothing be labelled with your child's name.

Celebrating Achievements at Home

We know that children learn at home as well as at school. We would like to celebrate things that your child achieves outside of school. Please complete a wow voucher when you want to share your child's achievement with us. These will be displayed on our wow board. These achievements

can be anything from swimming without armbands for the first time, being helpful at home, cleaning their teeth on their own.

Forest School

Forest School sessions will be on Monday afternoons throughout the year. The first session will be on Monday 26th September. Some information about Forest School, and a permission form is attached. Please complete and return this on Monday morning.

Home toys

We ask that children do not bring home toys in to school to avoid the upset of these being lost or damaged.

The Outside Area

We are currently looking for the following resources for our outside area:

- Rubber ducks
- Boats
- Plastic bottles/plastic spray bottles
- Buckets and spades

In addition we will be creating a natural area for planting and would like to put our plants in **old wellies, crocs and any colourful waterproof (PVC) handbags.**

If you have any of these items that need a new home please can you drop these in to the office, we would be very grateful.

Finally, if you have any questions, now or during the year please do come and talk to us after school.

We look forward to a successful and happy year ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Bardell and Mrs B