



Welcome to Reception

September 2024

Start of day: 8:50am

End of day: 3:15pm

Staff working with your children this year:

Mrs Howell
Mrs Mohan
Mr Hakes

Early Years Phase Leader

Mrs Howell

Classes in Early Years

Nursery: Miss Connor and Mrs Wright

Reception: Mrs Howell, Mrs Mohan and Mr Hakes

Dear parent/carer,

A big welcome back from all of us in Reception. All the staff in Reception are so excited to work with you and your child over the next year. Please remember that all members of staff are happy to speak with you at any time over the year regarding the learning and well-being of your child. Do not hesitate to contact us via our online platform (eSchools) or by contacting the school office (01740 630270). Alternatively, we are happy to discuss any issues with you during morning or evening handovers, provided we have additional supervision for our class.

Please find below some important information for this year.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Reception Topics:

Autumn 1	All about me!
Autumn 2	Celebration time!
Spring 1	Once upon a time....
Spring 2	Where does my imagination take me?
Summer 1	Living things
Summer 2	Our Environment

During the first half term, we will be focusing on settling the children into school, supporting them to feel happy in their new environment and learning about them. We will also begin our phonics scheme (Success for All) and our Maths scheme (Maths No Problem!)

Essential Reception 'kit'

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child brings the following items to school:

- A book bag or other small bag
 - A water bottle (please only send water to school for drinking throughout the day)
 - A coat
 - A change of underwear and clothes in case of a toileting accident (if needed)
- Please ensure that all items are named so that we can easily return them to you.

Reception Baseline Assessments

During the first few weeks of Reception, your child will complete the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). This is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early Literacy, Communication and Language and Mathematics skills. The RBA is statutory for all schools to complete.

The RBA will provide an opportunity for your child to have valuable one-to-one time with us at an early stage, so that we can get to know your child better. It will provide a helpful snapshot of your child so that they can be supported in the most appropriate way.

You do not need to do anything to prepare your child for the assessment. Your child is unlikely to even know that they are doing an assessment when they are completing the tasks and activities.

Once these activities are completed, we will begin our Literacy and Maths programmes, and children will then begin to bring home resources to support their learning.

Educational Visits

Some of the visits we are organising this year include:

Autumn Term	'The Night Before Christmas' Workshop at Wharton Park
Spring Term	Farm Visit
Summer Term	Saltholme Visit

More information to follow soon about the Autumn Term trip.

eSchools

You will soon be receiving your child's eSchools login, which we will stick in their Reading Records. This will give you access to our class page, where we will share important information and updates from Reception.

PE:

The designated day for PE is Tuesday. **Named** PE kits are required to be brought into school each half-term so that we can have flexibility with the weather for outdoor PE. We will return PE kits at the end of each half-term (or before if needed) to be washed.

Phonics

On completion of the RBA, we will begin our phonics scheme 'Success for All'. We would like to invite you into school for a short phonics meeting on either **November 5th** or **November 7th at 3.15pm**, where we will give you more information about the scheme and discuss how you can support your child at home. More information to follow.

At home, you can support your child's learning through simple and fun activities, such as:

- Reading - share your child's favourite stories with them and help them develop a love for literature!
- Phonics - help your child to learn the letter sounds that are sent home (we will discuss this further at our phonics meeting)
- Activities to develop their finger strength and control, such as playdough, colouring, cutting and threading.
- Number recognition, counting, and ordering numbers to 20 - try going on a number hunt, counting how many Lego bricks are in a tower or playing a board game.
 - Encouraging turn taking when playing games.

Please return any paperwork sent home, if you have not already done so. If someone different to usual will be collecting your child, please inform us and check that they know the password you chose! We hope that your child continues to enjoy their time in Reception and we look forward to sharing more about their journey with you.