

What are Year R up to?

Year R

Welcome to the new school year and our first newsletter. Thank you so much to everyone for our initial school 'home' visits. It was wonderful to meet you all and learn more about your child, their likes and dislikes and you as a family. They were all a great success and will allow us to help your child settle well into school.

We are looking forward to an exciting term in Reception and we will make sure we make the most of our indoor and our new outdoor classroom space. The children have settled in well and have enjoyed being able to go between both classrooms and especially the outdoor area.

Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned all of the relevant forms. Hopefully, you are all set up on Tapestry and will begin to see some of the exciting things your child has been doing while at school. If you have any problems or questions about Tapestry, please do not hesitate to get in contact. We also look forward to sharing Tapestry with the children and seeing what they have been up to at home too.

During the first few weeks the children will be busy getting to know the school routines and learning their way around the classroom so that they are happy and excited to come to school each day. Below is further information about each area of learning that we will be looking at in class. Please remember, if you have any questions, feel free to ask any member of our Reception team.

Phonics

We will be following the 'Letters and Sounds' phonic scheme while incorporating some of Ruth Miskin's 'Read, Write, Inc' resources to help support letter formations. There will be a virtual information session on **Tuesday 22nd September** at **9:00am** and **6:00pm** for those who would like further information on how to support children's phonic learning at home.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Learning about the classroom and school routines
- Initiating conversations with others when playing
- Beginning to develop good relationships with the adults and children at school
- Practising taking turns and sharing
- Selecting and using resources with some independence

Important Dates

Parent interviews
Monday 19th October and Thursday 22nd October
3:50pm—6:50pm

Reminders

All uniform should be **labelled** with their names. Even book bags and water bottles. This helps speed up our home time routine.



Communication and Language

- Listening to stories
- Sharing experiences, recalling personal events and learning to listen to others
- Following simple instructions by listening to others
- Using language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations
- Beginning to use talk to organise, sequence and clarify their thinking, ideas and feelings

Physical Development

- Engaging in a range of activities that encourage large body movements (gross motor skills)
- Engaging in a range of activities that encourage small body movements (fine motor skills)
- Managing own personal needs

Literacy

- Mark making with different implements and giving meaning to marks
- Finding rhyming pairs and rhyming strings
- Recognising initial sounds
- Retelling familiar stories

Mathematics

- Number: counting and recognition
- Counting objects 1:1
- Addition and subtraction (one more / one less) practically
- Time—my day

Understanding the World

- Remembering and talking about significant events in their own experience
- Talking about why things happen and how things work—linked to our bodies
- Using age appropriate computer programs on the interactive whiteboard

Expressive Arts and Design

- Learn new songs and join in with familiar songs
- Explore and play different instruments and tap out simple rhythms
- Explore and create different effects with a range of resources
- Construct with a purpose in mind using a variety of different resources
- Engaging in imaginative role play based on first-hand experiences
- Creating simple representation of events, people and objects

Show and Tell

Show and tell will take place on Fridays only during 'Family Time'. We encourage children to bring in something that they have made, something of significant importance or something special. Please avoid bringing in toys to school. **Our first show and tell will be Friday 2nd October.**

Finally, don't forget to regularly look on our school website for information about upcoming events and photographs of our learning.

Can You Help?

You have all seen our fabulous new outdoor area but we were wondering if anyone had any of the following to add to it for the children. They do not need to be in mint condition but if you happen to be throwing away anything after a lockdown clear out please let us know.

We are looking for...

- Wooden spoons
- Pots and pans
- Baking trays
- Cake tins
- Sieve / colanders
- Silicone cake moulds
- Mortar and pestle (we have scoured charity shops and car boot sales for these and have not yet found one!)



Curiosity Cupboard

Junk Modelling
If you have any clean recycling such as cardboard, plastic containers or anything that could be used for junk modelling, please bring it in to Hedgehogs class.

You may have seen in Hedgehogs class the beginning of our 'Curiosity Cupboard'. Our hope is to begin to fill this with 'curious' objects for the children to look at and wonder about. Curiosity cupboards are great ways to initiate conversations and can open up a child's world to objects that they may not have seen before. If you have anything that your child would like to bring in that they think is curious, they can bring in their object for a short period of time to share with children in Rabbits and Hedgehogs. I have included some already established curiosity cupboards to give you an idea about what they may look like.

