

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Reception Class. Below are some of the things we will be covering in Reception Class before the half-term break. We hope you find this useful in understanding some of the things your child is learning at school and how you might be able to support them at home.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is split into 7 areas. Three of them are now known as the 'prime areas'.

- * Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- * Communication and Language
- * Physical Development

These work together and are fundamental in supporting the other areas.
The other four are referred to as the 'specific areas'.

- * Literacy
- * Mathematics
- * Understanding the World
- * Expressive Arts and Design

These areas include essential skills and knowledge for your child to participate successfully in society.
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- building relationships with a variety of peers and adults in my new class through play & conversation
- identifying feelings (myself & others) & exploring how to manage them appropriately
- exploring, selecting and using resources from my new environment (including returning resources to their rightful place)
- establishing rules/routines to help me stay safe & happy
- using the Good as Gold Board and coming home with special stickers each day for making 'good choices'
- sharing, turn-taking and using good manners - Kindness Jar - (holding doors, please and thank you etc)

Communication and Language

- Gingers Listening rules/waiting your turn to speak
- holding a conversation & taking into account what is said by others
- sharing information about my family and home
- expressing my likes and concerns about starting school
- talking through my thought process when I am engaged in activities
- listening to & sharing stories
- playing listening games i.e. Sounds Lotto; Simon Says
- following instructions and requests made by adults
- rhyming games/activities/stories

Physical Development

- developing correct pencil grip for mark making/writing
 - using & transporting scissors safely
 - developing fine motor control & coordination through games & activities i.e. threading, peg boards, pin-boards etc
 - developing my independence with personal hygiene (toileting, hand washing, putting on coats, removing jumpers, blowing noses etc)
 - Forest Schools (every Friday morning)
 - Go Noodle (www.gonoodle.com)
 - exploring moving in a range of ways i.e. slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, skipping, sliding, hopping etc
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Specific Areas

Literacy

- finding my own name for self-registration
- writing my name on the dinner list
- book bags - selecting books from class and sharing at home at least 3 times a week
- Read, Write Inc - learning letter sounds
- Letter formation using a range of media
- using writing table & resources (inside & out)

- 'writing' in my Self-Initiated Writing book
- exploring rhyming stories; rhymes & games
- making up stories for adults to scribe
- mark making/writing opportunities i.e. chalks; brushes & water; labels for models; role-play...

Mathematics

- counting to & recognising numbers to 5, 10, 20
- counting accurately through games & activities
- ordering numbers to 10/20
- developing shape and colour recognition
- calendar-days of the week/months of the year
- recognising 1 more/1 less in everyday activities
- making shape pictures/patterns (shape recognition)

Understanding of the World

- finding out about our families, body parts, senses, hygiene, healthy eating and keeping safe
- exploring our new environment, talking about why things happen and how things work (inside and outside)
- using ICT equipment to support with our learning
- finding out about Autumn and Harvest

Expressive Arts and Design

- learning new songs; singing familiar ones
- painting self-portraits and free painting
- making models and exploring attaching and joining techniques
- using imagination in the role-play area & other areas of play and dance
- exploring the sounds and patterns we can make using the musical instruments
- 'sticking pictures'
- marble painting

Activities that you could do at home to support your child

Ask your child one of the questions below each day	Make an 'All About Me' poster and bring it into school to show your class
Find time to hear your child read their school book at least 3 times a week so that your child can collect their rewards	Get yourself dressed and do your coat up independently
Count up to 5/10/20 in the correct order and try counting backwards	Get to know your colours if you don't already
Remember to flush the toilet and wash your hands when you have used the toilet	Play some listening games i.e. Simon Says; Sound Lotto; listen for 30 seconds outside or inside - what did you hear?
Sing nursery rhymes and make up your own	Complete your Read, Write Inc handwriting sheets
Practice using scissors safely to cut things out	Move and dance to music in any way you like
Learn a new song	Visit www.oxfordowl.co.uk or www.crickweb.co.uk or www.topmarks.co.uk

Questions

- Who did you play with today?
- What was the best thing you did today?
- What made you laugh today?

- Name 4 children in your class
- What do you want to be when you grow up?
- What was the hardest thing you did today?
- What was the easiest thing you did today?
- Who did you sit next to for lunch?
- If you had one wish, what would you wish for?
- What did you have for lunch today?