



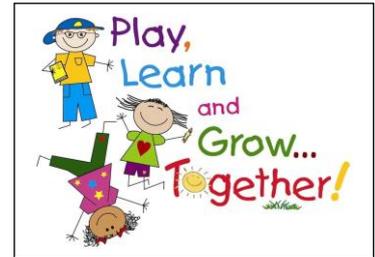
# Clipstone Brook

## Reception Information

25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parent / Carer,

We're delighted with how the children have settled into Reception and Nursery. It's wonderful to hear the laughs and giggles and witness the awe and wonder moments experienced by your child daily.



We would like to introduce the Early Years Staff to you: Ms. Sinclair-Gunn (Seahorse class teacher and Foundation Manager); Miss Southwell (Starfish class teacher); Mrs Simmonds (Trainee teacher in Starfish class); Mrs Hynes (Nursery nurse in Seahorse class); Miss Coe (Nursery nurse in Starfish class); Miss Hardy (Nursery nurse and HLTA in Starfish class); Miss Howlett (Nursery nurse in Seahorse class).

I have attached a copy of the topics we will be covering this year. You will note that on some weeks the theme will be 'child initiated' as it is important that our children have a say in their learning. We ask children what they would like to learn about and have a vote. We ensure that all children get a choice in what they would like to learn about over the year. Our first child initiated week (Aut 1 Wk4) will be about 'Pirates'.

The children all look so smart in their school uniforms. Thank you for your support with this and for taking the time to label all items of your child's school uniform. May we take this opportunity to remind you, if you have not already done so, that it is essential to name all clothing, shoes, coats and P.E kits! It really does help things to be returned to the correct owner.

**PE Kit** - Please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school (white collarless t-shirt, red shorts, plimsoles or trainers for outside) \*Indoor PE will be in bare feet unless footwear is required due to a contagious foot infection. PE will be on a **Thursday for Seahorse class** and Friday for **Starfish class**. PE Kits are worn for a short time and can be left in school until the end of term.

**Earrings** - we prefer children not to wear earrings in school, but if they are to be worn they should be studs for health and safety reasons. Earrings must be removed on PE days or your child must be able to remove them themselves, because staff are not permitted to remove them.

**Long hair** - should be tied back for school, preferably and must be tied back for PE lessons.

**Book bags** - Red school book bags (available from the school office) are preferable as they fit into the children's tidy-tray, allowing quick access to add pictures, letters and access reading books.



**Reading books** - Your child will have been given a reading book by now. We encourage children to read four times a week, discussing what is happening in the pictures, finding initial sounds or for a few children, reading words they have learnt already. A target has been put into their reading record which will tell you what they are working on now. Another way to help your child make good progress is to practise the 'sound cards' you will find in your reading wallet. These are the sounds they have learnt or will learn in class. Please practise these sounds with your child (not letter names), if they are in your reading wallet.

**Reading Rainbow** - At Clipstone we want to foster a love of reading and as such we have a reward system for children who read four times a week (this does not have to be the whole book!). They will be given a Head teacher's award and entered onto the reading rainbow to receive a prize.



**Letter formation sheets** - Your child has been given a RWI worksheet to practise letter formation for the sound that they learnt that day. It is not compulsory for your child to complete this and should only be attempted if they wish to. It also lets parents know what sounds they have been learning over the week.

**Maths** - If you wish to support your child with their maths at home, we will be focussing on ensuring all children can identify, name and put a value (e.g. 5 = 5 apples) to numbers to 10. We recognise that some children are working above this and they will focus on identifying values of numbers to 20+ and addition of numbers to 10+.

**Personal toys** - should not be brought into school as this causes distress if they are lost or broken. Exceptions are made on 'Show and Tell' days where the object will be looked after until the Show and Tell session.

**Show and Tell** - Now that the children are settling into their routines, your child's class teacher will send out a note to tell you what day 'Show and Tell' will be held. Show and Tell is a great opportunity for your child to develop their communication skills and share the things that are dearest to them. We would recommend that expensive electronic items should be discouraged in case of loss or damage. Don't worry if they want to bring in their favourite stone or stick ... it's what's important to them that matters.

**Water bottles** - it is important for your child to stay hydrated in school. They have access to water and their water bottles throughout the day. Bottles should not contain squash, fruit juice or fizzy pop. Only water is permitted in class.



**Parent's evening** - You should have received an appointment slip last week to arrange a time to discuss how your child is settling in and to give you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. \*Please note that Miss Southwell's parent's evening will be on different days, as specified on the appointment slip. This is unfortunately due to a course that could not be rearranged.

The foundation staff are very much looking forward to working with you and your child, to help them reach their full potential over the coming year. If you have any questions or queries, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support!

Yours sincerely,

Ms Sinclair-Gunn

Miss Southwell

Mrs Simmonds

