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Reception Class Curriculum Information – Autumn Term 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome to the start of an exciting new year at school! The Reception Class team are very excited to get to know your child and celebrate with them as they begin their journey in full time education.

Our topic within the Foundation Stage Unit this half term is 'All About Me'. The children will spend lots of time settling in and getting to know one another during the first fortnight. We will have fun finding out what your child can do, what they are interested in and where they are with their learning so we can establish where they need to go next on their learning journey.

Here is a broad outline of what your child will be doing in each area of learning:

Religious Education Our first R.E. topic is God's World. We will be learning about all the wonderful gifts God gave us and how we should care for them. In relation to this we will reflect on how God created us all and how we are all special. We will also hear and respond to The Story of Creation.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development We will be spending time learning new rules and boundaries as well as getting to know our new friends. The children will be encouraged to initiate conversations as well as listen and respond in conversations with others. We will be talking about ourselves and our strengths and abilities, but also things we would like to get better at during our time in Reception Class.

Communication and Language We will begin our time in Reception by learning about good listening and responding when on the carpet, whether it be to instructions, a story or to our friends. We will also work on developing our speech and the children will be encouraged to speak in full sentences using the correct tense.

Physical Development This half-term we will be focusing on perfecting our pencil grip, developing our scissor skills and improving our fine motor skills in general through lots of games and activities. Fine motor skills will really benefit your child when learning to write- encouraging them to thread, sew, trace patterns, push objects into playdough, using pegs etc. can really help to develop fine motor skills.

In P.E. we will experiment with different ways of moving and practice our control and coordination when running and navigating large spaces and obstacles. Please ensure PE kits are brought into school, our PE days are Tuesday and Friday. Encouraging your child to begin getting dressed independently at home will benefit them when changing at school.

This half term we will be enjoying lots of stories including classic tales, class favourites and stories relating to our 'All About Me' topic. Children are welcome to bring books in from home to share with the class if they wish. In phonics we will start at the beginning of Phase 2, learning lots of sounds and how to blend them into words, but also how to segment short words in order to work out how to spell them. We will also be drawing lots of pictures which the children will be encouraged to label.

Maths This half term, we will focus on four areas of maths: counting and recognising numbers up to 20; naming and describing 2D and 3D shapes; and describing positions. The children will also be encouraged to begin to use their new maths skills to solve every-day problems. To help reinforce your child's learning please encourage talk about numbers and shapes you may see in the environment, count stairs you walk up together and ask your child to get objects for you using words such as behind, under, next to etc.

Understanding the World In our topic 'All About Me', the children will be encouraged to discuss and understand our bodies, our families, our similarities and differences and our hobbies. The children will also be encouraged to talk about past, present and future events in their own lives and in the lives of their families and friends.

Expressive Arts and Design In Reception Class we love to sing and learn new songs. The children will also be encouraged to dance and experiment with musical instruments. There will also be plenty of opportunities for the children to paint, construct, model and stick! Donations of cardboard boxes, plastic tubs and bottles, yoghurt pots, fabric etc. are always appreciated!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch, we are looking forward to working with you and your child.

Mrs Medley and the Reception team

Please remember your donation of £2.50 this half-term for our Smiley Face box. This enables us to buy craft and baking equipment which is a fun way for your child to learn across the curriculum! Thank you for your support.