

**Spring Edition**

**January 2023**

**Dear Families**

***Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. We thank you for your patience and support during the settling in period during the Autumn term and look forward to continuing the learning journey with your children and yourselves.***

**The Reception Team**

## Calendar dates:

**Inset day 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**End of Term  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

**Half Term  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup>  
February**

**School starts again  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

**Easter Break  
3<sup>rd</sup> April - 16<sup>th</sup> April**

**School starts again  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

## Subject Coverage

### Communication and Language:

We now engage in carpet time sessions, story times and class discussions where children need to listen to adults and each other and share their thoughts and ideas as well as ask questions to clarify their understanding.

We are continuing to introduce new vocabulary and encouraging children to use it. Children are expected to speak using full sentences.

Literacy: We are going to keep our Spring topic books a mystery for now as children will be asked to listen to a character description and paint the character they way they imagine. We will let you know on dojo what our book is once we have completed this task.

Children are continuing to learn their letter sounds and practising applying them to reading and writing simple CVC words.

### PSED:

We are continuing to support children to express their feelings in appropriate ways and consider the feelings of others. We continue to model sharing, turn taking, and using resources appropriately. We are encouraging children to find ways to resolve issues more independently.

### Physical Development:

Indoor PE – Gymnastics – moving in a range of ways, travelling over, under and through equipment. Safely negotiating spaces.

Handwriting – We are using the Read Write Inc. letter formation rhymes to support children to correctly form their letters. We will also be working on keeping letters an appropriate size on the page and sitting on the line.

Maths: We will be developing our understanding of number with lots of opportunities to count, order numbers and practice writing our numbers. We are going to be comparing groups using the language more, less and fewer.

Length language – short, shorter than, long, longest etc. Comparing lengths.

### Understanding the World:

We will be learning about seasons and exploring the natural world around us. We will also be looking at things you may see in a forest e.g. plants, bug and pond life, with a focus on life cycles.

Expressive Arts and Design: We will be exploring lots of art materials such as paint, crayons, chalks and others. Children will be encouraged to plan and evaluate their work.

## Reading Records

We will be writing in children's new books on a Monday. Please ensure that you are sharing books and, if appropriate, your child is reading their Read Write Inc. book to you at least 3 times a week and you note it in their reading record.

### Tapestry

We are now using tapestry to upload work and learning evidence. You can also upload things to share with us.

### Dojo

. Please keep a close eye on our dojo class walls as this is our main form of communication and where we will share updates etc.

## Upcoming Events in Reception

**Chinese new Year WB 16.01.23**

### Trips this term

**TBC – trips, special events,**

### Assemblies

While the children are settling into school life, we will not be going to assemblies yet. Once we are settled in, we will try to attend some special assemblies.

### Home and school partnership

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that they:

- Arrive at school on time, the gates open at 8.40am. Doors open at 8.50am and children should be here by 9am.
- Read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve fluency and literacy skills. (Once we begin reading!)
- Share their school experiences with you so that you are aware of their school life.

Miss Avery, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Taiwo, Miss Faudia, and Miss Mander



### **Staff in Reception:**

Miss Avery - Class Teacher (Mon, Tues, Weds)  
Mrs Dixon – Class Teacher (Thurs and Fri)  
Miss Faudia - TA  
Mrs Taiwo – Class Teacher  
Mrs Mander - TA

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

*Do encourage your child to come to school every day unless they are really ill.  
Remember frequent absences can seriously hinder your child's education. Arriving in school on time is also vital, and helps your child to settle into school life and school routines quicker!*

### PE Days

**PE day is now a Tuesday. Children need to be wearing their indoor kit – shorts and a tshirt and appropriate shoes (plimsols or trainers) Please ensure the items are the correct colours in line with the schools policy and that they are plain (no pictures or logos)**

### Belongings

***Please make sure that your child's belongings (uniform, PE kit, lunch box, water bottle) are clearly marked with their name, and are brought to school every day.***

### UNIFORM REMINDER

- Children are not permitted to wear clothing that has Logos on it (this includes fashionable brand names or strips).
- Children are no longer required to wear white shirts, they can now wear white polo tops. Children can continue to wear the shirts they have until they are ready to be replaced.
- Children are no longer required to wear ties.

**All children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos and is based on the following principles:**

- Promotes a sense of pride amongst the children in the school
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be)

- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind.
- Impacts positively on attitudes to learning

Please note that it is not compulsory to purchase logo items of school uniform, you may purchase plain uniform items from a shop of your choice - something that we actively encourage you to do.

Second-hand uniforms can benefit all parents, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable.

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey trousers</li> <li>▪ Grey shorts in the summer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey skirt/tunic/trousers</li> <li>▪ Green &amp; white check dress in the summer</li> <li>▪ Grey shorts in the summer</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White polo shirt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White polo shirt</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey socks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White/grey socks/tights</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottle green pullover or school sweatshirt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottle green cardigan or school sweatshirt</li> </ul>
<p>Black school shoes</p> <p><i>No trainers or the equivalent</i></p> <p><i>Children are not allowed to wear boots</i></p> <p><b><i>Please note: Shoes should not have flashing lights.</i></b></p> <p><b>Sandals and other open footwear are not allowed at any time of the year</b></p>	
<p><b>PE - children should come into school wearing their PE kit on days they have PE lessons</b></p>	
<p><b>Indoor PE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Black shorts</li> <li>▪ White T-Shirt</li> <li>▪ Bare feet</li> <li>▪ Black leotards are acceptable for Junior Girls (if they can change in and out of these quickly)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outdoor PE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Black shorts</li> <li>▪ White T-Shirt</li> <li>▪ Black plimsolls or training shoes</li> <li>▪ Socks ONLY - No tights</li> </ul>
<p><b>In colder weather (the following is allowed):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Children may wear a green fleece (with or without a school logo) or a plain black tracksuit top / fleece / hoodie with black jogging bottoms over their shorts and t shirt.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Water Bottles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please either purchase a Castilion Water bottle from the school office or provide your child with a clear plastic, push-up top water bottle.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Jewellery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For health and safety reasons, please do not send your child to school wearing jewellery. If your child has already had his/her ears pierced, they may only wear plain studs, with no stones.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Watches</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Children may only wear plain, small, watches that only tell the time and do not allow any other activity to be accessed.</li> </ul>	

## Hair

- Children should come to school with sensible haircuts. Skin-head, Mohican, motif haircuts, dyed hair and coloured extensions are not permitted.
- Children may wear plain beads but these must be tied back.
- Hair accessories should only be worn in order to keep hair tied back, they should be discreet and plain coloured (black/white/green)
- Nail varnish and make-up MUST NOT be worn.

## Nut Free School

As we have several children in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy we have made the decision to continue forwards as a 'Nut-Free School' If your child has a nut allergy could you please inform our Senior Administrator Ms N Walford via the school office and their teacher as soon as possible. Although we are now striving to be a nut-free school, it will be impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises.



*Please record all daily reading in the children's reading record books.  
Teachers will be checking these and signing them weekly.*

**Reading records and reading books should be brought to school every day to support progress.**

**Don't forget to give your child a bottle of water to bring to school every day.**

*Thank you for your support.*