

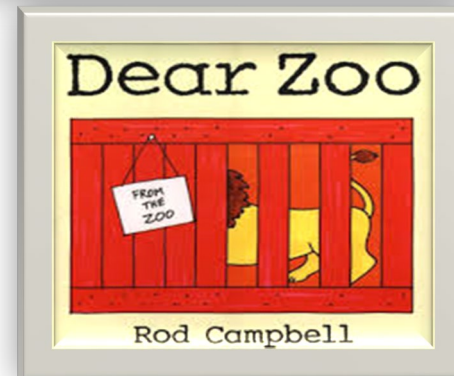
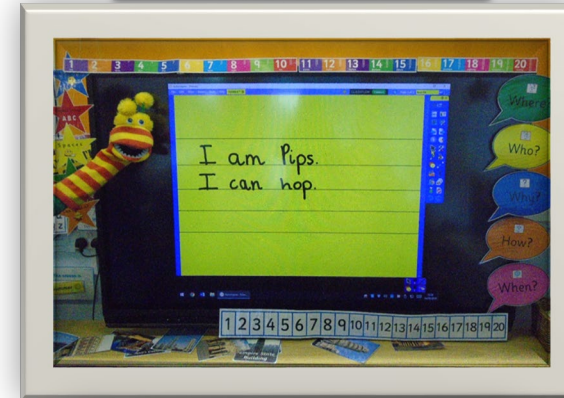


A Parent and Child's Guide to the Foundation Stage

July 2021

A day in Reception

- Children arrive, wash hands and self register by matching their name to their photograph
- Morning welcome and song
- Whole class wellbeing check
- Daily Maths Moment
- One to one reading with an adult
- Indoor and outdoor learning
- Snack time
- Daily phonics
- Playtime
- Maths focus
- Focused learning with an adult
- Indoor and outdoor learning
- Lunch
- Big book/Literacy/Science focus
- Focused learning with an adult
- Indoor and outdoor learning
- Playtime
- Story time
- Home time



Daily routines

- Regular hand washing throughout the day
- Regular toilet trips
- Access to their water bottle throughout the day in the classroom
- Fruit snack
- Milk for those children who want it up until their fifth birthday (at which point you will need to contact the office to pay for the milk).



Snack

- School provides a daily fruit snack such as pears, apples or bananas
- Your child may bring their own fruit/vegetable snack to school
- Please note we allow fruit or vegetable snacks only. Please do not send in alternatives such as fruit winders or other snacks. Thank you
- As a healthy school we also have a 'water only' policy for water bottles.



Foundation Stage Curriculum

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected.

The prime areas of learning

- Communication and Language – Listening Attention and Understanding and Speaking
- Physical Development – Gross Motor and Fine Motor
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Self Regulation, Managing Self and Building Relationships

The specific areas of learning

The specific areas of learning develop essential skills and knowledge for children to participate successfully in society.

- Literacy – Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing
- Mathematics – Numbers and Numerical Patterns
- Understanding the World – Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities, The Natural World
- Expressive Arts and Design – Creating with Materials and Being Imaginative and Expressive

Characteristics of Effective Teaching & Learning

- The EYFS also includes the characteristics of effective teaching and learning. The Reception teachers plan activities within the classrooms with these in mind. They highlight the importance of a child's attitude to learning and their ability to play, explore and think critically about the world around them.
- The three characteristics are;
- Playing and Exploring – children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- Active Learning – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- Creating and Thinking Critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

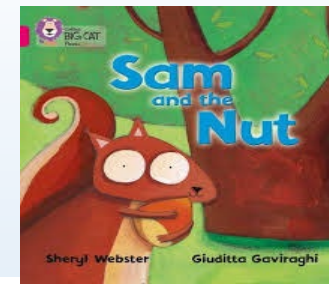
Play and Continuous Provision



- Learning through play is an important part of our Early Years classrooms. We believe children learn best from activities and experience that interests and inspires them. Using children's interests as a starting point, we provide children with stimulating, active play experiences in which they can explore and develop their learning to help them make sense of the world. We refer to this as our continuous provision. They have opportunities through their play to think creatively and critically alongside other children as well as on their own.
- They are able to practise skills, build upon and revisit prior learning and experience at their own level and pace. Play gives our children the opportunity to pursue their own interests and inspire those around them. The children learn to adapt, negotiate, communicate, discuss, investigate and ask questions. We believe it is important that at times adults take an active role in child initiated play through observing, modelling, facilitating and extending their play.



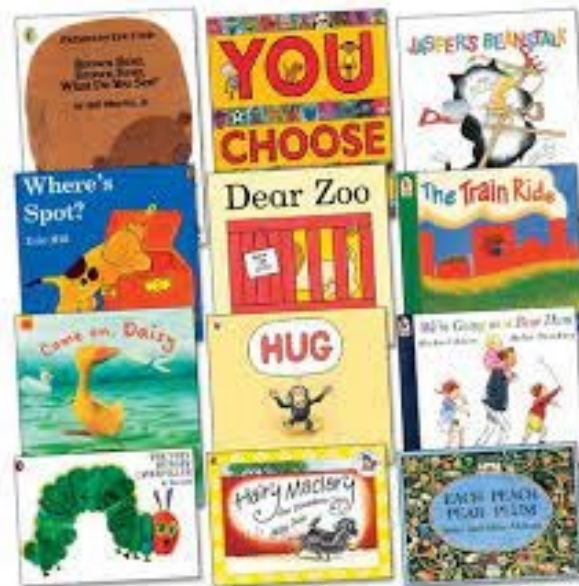
Phonics and Reading



- During their time in Reception children will be involved in a variety of reading experiences.
- Our phonics programme is Letters and Sounds and we teach phonics everyday.
- Children will bring home a weekly reading book and a reading diary.
- When an adult in school reads with your child they will write in the reading diary.
- When you read with your child please record this in the diary.
- To start with your child will probably bring home a reading book without words to help them develop their vocabulary and story telling skills.

Phonics and Reading

- They will also bring home a storybook for you to share together. Some of these books will be from our Reception Recommended Reading List.
- Please ensure your child brings their book to school everyday in their book bag.



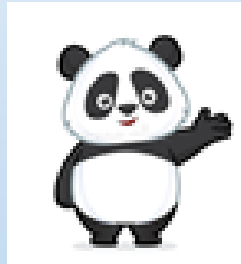
How can I prepare my child for starting school?

- Starting school is a big step for you, as well as for your child, it is a good idea to prepare yourself for the change, along with helping your child with the transition.
- You will probably have mixed emotions on your child's first day.
- Try not to show your child if you are feeling upset, as this can unsettle them.
- If your child seems unsettled, this often does not last long once you have gone.
- There are far too many exciting distractions. Remember that you can always phone school later to check how they are.
- Please share the wellbeing for starting school ideas with your child.



Well-being for starting school

Starting school is a very exciting time but we understand that some children may feel a little bit worried. Your child's new Teacher(s) and Teaching Assistant(s) will do everything that they can to help your child to feel happy and settled when they start school. This year is a little bit different so we have gathered some ideas of things that you could do to help them to feel happy when they come into school.



I am Mrs Firth.
I am the Panda
class teacher.



I am Mrs Gregory.
I am the Teaching
Assistant in
Pandas. class.



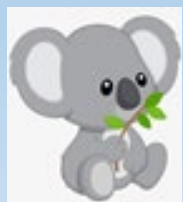
I am Mrs Ramsey.
I am Polar teacher
on a Monday and
Tuesday.



I am Mrs Goodwin.
I am Polar teacher on
a Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday.



I am Mrs
Cartwright. I am
the Teaching
Assistant in Polars.



I am Mrs Hoole.
I am the Koala
class teacher.



I am Mrs Britcher.
I am the Teaching
Assistant in
Koalas. class.



I am Mrs James. I
am the Teaching
Assistant in Polars
and Koalas

Ideas for supporting your child's well-being for starting school

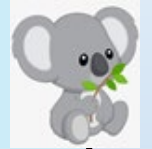
Clearly explain your morning routine to your child explaining that they will say goodbye to you at the gate before coming into their classroom.



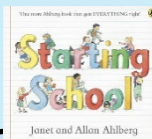
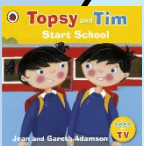
Talk to your child about their feelings related to starting school and help them to understand that all of these feelings are normal and ok and that lots of children will feel the same.



Look out for your child's class animal once you get into the school grounds and follow the trail to your classroom. The final one will be inside the classroom for the children to spot each day.



Read books about starting school and making new friends. Talk about things that may be the same or different in the books that you share.



Talk positively to your children about school. Discuss the adults that are going to be in the classroom, keep on watching the videos on the website and reading the welcome booklet to familiarise them with the school.

What skills are needed?

- It is not expected that children are reading and writing. Give plenty of opportunities to enjoy mark making, such as painting and share books together.
- Good personal skills are important, try and encourage your child with turn taking, sharing, asking for help and interacting with others.
- Supporting your child to become more independent will help them to cope in the new school environment.
- Important skills include:
 - Using the toilet independently
 - Turning on taps, washing and drying hands
 - Wiping their own nose, binning used tissues, catching coughs and sneezes and then washing hands
 - Dressing and undressing
 - Taking their coat on and off
 - Recognising their name

Things to remember

- Named tissues for tray
- Extra piece of fruit for snack
- Named water bottle
- Book bag everyday
- Please remind your children about good hygiene, regular handwashing, coughing, sneezing, tissues in bin etc
- All uniform and shoes named
- Named waterproof coat and appropriate items for different weather conditions
- Named PE kit-shorts and t-shirt



Things to remember continued...

- Please do not bring any toys from home into school.
- If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they are not permitted to return to school until 48 hours after the last episode.
- If your child displays any of the current symptoms of Covid-19 please do not send your child to school and inform the school office.
- We love celebrating the children's birthdays in school and singing Happy Birthday but please do not bring any sweet treats to share with the class as we have a number of allergies and dietary requirements in each class.

School Website and Google Classroom

You will be able to access information about what we are doing through the Reception curriculum section of our website and Google Classroom. We will share Details on how you can access Google Classroom in September.

<https://ecclesallprimary.co.uk/reception/>

This will include documents such as:

- Knowledge organiser
- Curriculum jigsaw
- Weekly parents notice
- More information about the curriculum will be shared with you in Autumn 1



General information

Medicines – If your child has a long term medical condition e.g. asthma you will need to fill in a care plan for your child. We are not able to administer any prescribed medicine e.g calpol however if your child is prescribed medicine you will need to take it into the office where you will need to fill out a form.

Please note that the car park is for staff only. Our school gates are closed between 8.30am and 9.00am and 3.00pm-3.30pm.

There are a number of children this year with severe allergies – please make sure that any food you send into school in a packed lunch box does NOT contain any nuts or products that may contain traces of nuts.

General information

All infant children are entitled to have a free school lunch. This will be in the form of a packed lunch for at least the first half term. Children will have the option of a hot choice such as a barbecued chicken wrap or a cheese, ham or tuna sandwich with a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks and a biscuit which will be eaten in the classroom.

School starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3pm for all Reception children. Your child's teacher will meet and greet at the Reception gate. At the end of the day the teacher will bring the children out to you. Home time can be quite busy and we ask for your patience please to ensure that all children are personally handed over to you. To help us, please make yourself visible to the class teacher and stand where you can be seen. Many thanks.