



Harvey Road School

Reception Class

Spring 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new term which we know will be a really fun-packed and exciting time of learning for us all. We are going to continue to include the children in our planning, building in their interests and needs. This term we are planning to cover a variety of topics including: 'shopping, healthy eating and money'; 'pets' 'transport' and 'spring and farm animals'

Please see below for our regular routines. If there are any changes I will let you know in our weekly newsletter where you can also find a weekly break down of what we will be covering in the following week and information about how you can support your child.

Library Books – These will continue to be changed on Thursday mornings, please make sure they are only in book bags on this day.

PE – We will be doing gymnastics in the hall on Tuesday afternoons for the first half of this term, children will wear shorts, t-shirt and bare feet (please note that it is unsafe for the children to climb on the equipment in baggy jogging bottoms so will need their shorts every week). For the second half term we will be going outside (weather permitting).

Puddle Suits – These were put to good use last term and will continue to be well used this term. Please ensure that your child's all-in-one is in school at all times to avoid them missing out.

Sharing Assembly - From this term onwards we will be joining the rest of the school for sharing assembly on a Friday morning, this will replace the star assemblies.

Learning Journals - Please remember that you can add photos and special moments to your child's learning journey.

Word Books – When your child is ready they will receive a small word book. This will contain 5 'tricky' words for them to learn each week and will be tested each Monday. When all 100 high frequency tricky words have been learnt your child will receive a certificate in assembly.

Reading Books – Please ensure that you read regularly with your child and sign to say that you have done so. Regular reading times are invaluable at this stage of your child's learning.

Thursday Mornings – Mrs Jeffrey will be joining the Reception team to teach the class on Thursday mornings for this term.

Literacy

In daily phonics we will segment sounds in words and blend them, link sounds to letters, name and sound the letters of the alphabet and read words together. We will be introducing the Phase 3 Phonic sounds which include vowel and consonant digraphs. I will continue to let you know which sounds we will be looking at each week through the Reception class newsletter

Children will be learning about capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and writing for meaning through labels, captions, list writing and structured sentences.

Communication and Language

Communication and language is an integral part of each day. The children love using the 'Ask me about' stickers to share their home lives together and ask and answer questions, please ensure that your child has one of these stickers at least twice a half term and let us know through the link book when you need more. We also regularly sing songs, chant rhymes and share jokes. Each afternoon we will have a class story where children will be encouraged to discuss settings, characters and what might happen next in the story.

Mathematics

In Maths Challenges this term we will continue to focus on numbers within 20 and calculations. We will also begin to learn some useful number facts such as number doubles and halves and pairs of numbers that make 10. Towards the end of this half term we will look at coins and their values. In Thursday Maths sessions with Mrs Jeffries the children will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes and their properties.

Understanding the World

We will use the topics we cover this term to encourage the children to look at and explore the world around them.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will compose their own music using a wide range of instruments. Children will be encouraged to use colours thoughtfully when representing objects and people. We will also continue to give the children freedom to express themselves through construction and to make models to match the topics covered. As part of this process we have short sessions where children show the rest of the class what they have made and explain how they have made it.

Physical Education

We will be doing gymnastics in the hall, exploring different ways of moving around the apparatus. We will be controlling balls, beanbags and footsteps in outdoor PE. Fine motor skills are practiced for 20 minutes on a daily basis through 'Busy Fingers' activities. We will focus on good practices with regard to exercise, eating and hygiene. We will talk about germs and how to keep healthy.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will encourage children to resolve conflicts by themselves using appropriate vocabulary and responses. We will celebrate kindness, helpfulness and good manners through weekly certificates. We will look at what keeps us healthy, with a focus on exercise, healthy eating, sleeping routines and hygiene. We will be thinking about what we are good at, our skills and what makes us special as individuals.

Useful Dates for Reception Class Parents

- Tues 29th Jan – Thanks for Thinking day (a focused look at the religions represented in our school – please contact Mrs Stevens if you would like to share any of the traditions within your family)
- Tues 5th Feb – 9-9.30am Stay and Play (parents/grandparents are welcome to come and be part of our class and look at your child's Learning Journey)
- Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February – Half term break.
- Week commencing 4th March – Book week. We will be having a 'mystery reader' at the end of each day so if you would like to come and share your favourite book with the children let us know, but don't tell them!
- Friday 22nd March – Learning Journal Review 2.45-3.15pm
- Tues 26th and Thurs 28th March – Parent Consultation evenings (school finishes at 2.30pm on Tuesday 26th March)
- Fri 5th Apr – end of term (school finishes at 2.30pm)
- Monday 8th April to Tuesday 23rd April – Easter Break
- Tues 23rd April – INSET day