



# Harvey Road School

## Reception Class

### Autumn 2021

Dear Parents,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Harvey Road School. Every term you will receive a letter like this which will give you an insight into some of the things the children will be learning. You will also receive a newsletter every Friday which will let you know about the specific learning that will be taking place the following week.

Reading: Please read with and to your child on a daily basis, little and often is most beneficial. It's important to share a variety of texts including: newspapers; magazines; catalogues; lists; leaflets; coupons as well as fact and fiction books. When your child is ready we will begin to send home school reading books, your child will have a reading record in which you can let us know how they get on with each book and when it is ready to be changed. Encourage your child to re-read the books and talk about the stories/content as much as possible. Please do make sure that you sign the reading record when you are ready for the book to be changed so that we know to change it.

Learning Journeys: Your child's learning journey will be our assessment tool throughout the year. Please share any achievements and special occasions from home through the Evidence Me app. These provide excellent additions to the learning journeys. We will also be sending home a sheet of 'Ask me about' stickers, these should be used as often as the children choose and can tell us about family events big and small from weddings to trips to the park. We will have a learning journey review towards the end of the term when you are invited to come in and look at your child's journal and write a comment.

Library: Books will be changed every Monday. Please make sure your child has their school Library book in school on this day.

P.E.: P.E lessons are on **Thursdays** but children should have their PE kit in school at all times. Please ensure all clothing is clearly named and check size of footwear regularly

Staffing: Mrs Stevens will teach the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Walker on a Thursday and Friday. The learning support assistants (LSAs) in Reception class are Miss Billington and Mrs Khatoun across the week. Mrs Collins and Miss Haydon are also in the class every day supporting a child as one to one support.

Please inform us of any change in home-time collection, preferably in writing in the link book. Can we please ask that when you have written in the link book that you place it in the basket by the gate in the morning. Do feel free to come and see us if you have any worries (preferably after school when we have more time!)

With thanks,  
Mrs Stevens and Mrs Walker

### **Communication and Language**

We will be doing lots of listening activities, encouraging the children to listen to each other and adults in the school. We'll be listening to class stories and to music, singing songs and listening to each other's voices. We will be learning to follow instructions, getting more and more complex and containing more parts, understanding humour in a weekly joke spot, nonsense rhymes and funny poems.

We will be developing conversational skills in the role play area. Children will talk to the class about events from home using the 'Ask me about' stickers and the other children will be encouraged to ask sensible questions to be answered. We'll be developing story language through the puppet theatre and small world play.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Our topic this half term is 'Being Me in My World'. We will explore what makes us each individual, how to manage and regulate our own emotions and how better to understand the emotions of others.

We will be supporting children as they settle our new routines, developing their confidence and independence. Children will be given opportunities through circle time and daily activities to initiate conversations, ask questions of others and resolve conflicts with each other.

### **Physical Development**

We will experiment with ways of moving and responding to music through dance. The children will also have access to a range of apparatus in our outside area to encourage them with climbing, moving with control and ball skills.

The children's fine motor skills will be supported through daily 'Busy Fingers' activities each morning as they come into class.

### **Literacy**

Reading: We will be learning about sounds, looking at initial sounds of words, sound blending and identifying sounds within words. We will introduce early phonics reading schemes including picture books for language development, moving onto books with words when children are ready for them. We will be sequencing familiar stories and discussing characters and events within the story.

Writing: We use Read Write Inc mnemonics to help develop sound recognition alongside correct letter formation. Children will be learning to segment simple words and to write them using correct letter formation and pencil control, ensuring the correct pencil grip.

### **Mathematics**

We will be working hard with the children to develop their 'number sense' which is the ability to be flexible with numbers. It helps children understand both how our number system works, and how numbers relate to each other. Children who develop number sense have a range of mathematical strategies at their disposal. They know when to use them and how to adapt them to meet different situations. This means that we will be spending lots of time counting, ordering, sorting, spotting and creating patterns with numbers.

### **Understanding the World**

Children will look at how we are all different from each other. We will think about how different people have different likes and dislikes, skills and talents, and begin to think about feelings. We will talk about

celebrations in our families, focusing on birthdays. We will explore the people within our community who help us e.g. nurses, police officers and fire brigade.

We will look at the physical similarities and differences between members of the class, and people from different nationalities. We will focus on animals, animal environments and animal food after half term. We will be thinking about celebrations within different faiths and beginning to think about different people's beliefs.

Children will begin to develop mouse control, to click and drag objects on a screen, to use shapes and colours within specific programmes to create pictures of familiar objects, animals and people.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

We will be developing self-portraits, colour mixing and collage work.

We will be exploring music through singing, using percussion instruments and experiencing rhythm.

We will develop our role play area tailored to the children's interests. We have begun with a home corner.

### **Useful Dates for Reception Class Parents**

- Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Sept: School Photos
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Oct: 6.30pm Supporting your child's learning in the EYFS information evening
- Tue 19<sup>th</sup>/Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct: Parent's Evenings
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Oct –Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Oct: Half Term

Other events such as star (certificate) assemblies, themes assemblies or 'stay and play' are currently unable to happen but we will continue to review this and inform you of dates if and when these events are able to go ahead.