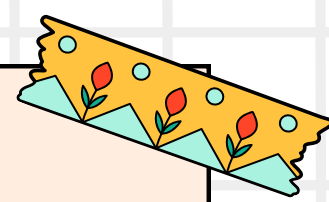


TERM 1



WELCOME TO REDFIELD

In this first newsletter, we aim to give you some key information regarding your child's first term with us, as well as information that will continue to be relevant throughout the year.

Please look at Class Dojo regularly as important information is communicated in this way. If you need any help, setting up your account or accessing any information, please let us know! You should have all received a document to activate your child's account. If you have not received this, please let one of us know.



Learning this term

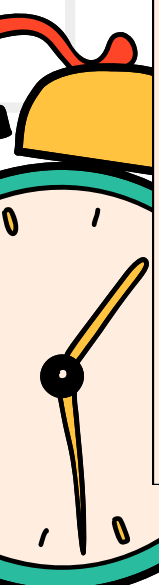
This term is all about making the children feel welcome and settled to school. We will be focussing on getting to know them and ensuring they feel safe and happy in their new environment.

Our key question this term is '**Who am I?**' which gives us the opportunity to get to know each other and the things that make us similar and different. We will be exploring families, friends, school, feelings, and communities. As part of this topic, we will be talking about our families and our homes. Please could you send in a photograph of your child with their family for us to discuss as a class.

Either a printed copy, an emailed version to our main office or uploaded to Class Dojo.

The over-arching aim for this first term is to ensure every child is settled and happy in school, which will enable them to learn and make progress in all areas. The school day provides children with lots of opportunities to learn through collaborative play, alongside focused whole-class and small-group teaching of key knowledge and skills. The adults in Reception also love getting 'stuck in' to the play alongside the children, and lots of new learning will happen in this way.

During this first term, children will also take part in a statutory Reception Baseline Assessment – more detail about this is provided in the attached leaflet from the Department for Education.



Things to bring in each day in Reception:

Please ensure that your child brings the following to school every day:

- **School book bag**, containing reading book, reading record and phonics sounds to practice with your child
- A **named water bottle** (water only, not squash or fizzy drinks)
- **Named waterproof coat.**
- **Named wellies**
- It would also be useful if you could provide a **spare set of clothes** (including underwear) in case of any accidents, in a plastic bag, which can be stored safely in the classroom.

*If your child requires any regular medication, or has an inhaler or epi-pen, this needs to be passed to the school office, who will ask you to complete a medical form and to provide us with more detail about this, including a care plan where necessary.

What to wear

As you are aware, we are a non-uniformed school. Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear for their learning. We will of course make sure your child is comfortable and will offer a change of clothes if they are completely drenched from measuring water or making mud pies!

Learning can be messy!

Playing outside is so important. I run and jump and get lots of fresh air. Sometimes I might get grass or mud on my clothes.



Using a knife and fork at lunchtime is tricky! Sometimes I get food on my clothes!

I sometimes get pen and paint on my clothes! This is because I am developing creative skills and exploring lots of different ways of making amazing art!

Our mud kitchen is so much fun! I use all my senses, which is so important for my development. It also helps me use my imagination and practise playing with my friends nicely!



Exploring in the water tray is giving me lots of maths and scientific skills! I love pouring, filling and emptying! I usually wear an apron but sometimes my clothes get wet!



Exploring with playdough and other messy play resources like foam or food, helps me to develop fine motor control and build up muscles and coordination in my hands and fingers. I will need these when I learn to write.



When I get messy, I have been showing curiosity, determination, persistence, imagination and confidence!





Reading Books

We will soon begin to send home reading books for you to share at home with your child. The first of these books will have no words, so that the children focus on developing their understanding of how to handle books and how to enjoy looking at the pictures – you can encourage them to use these images to ‘tell’ the story and to talk about what they can see.

As we teach phonics, we will send home reading books that are decodable – this means children should be able to use their emerging phonics knowledge to break down the words into individual sounds and blend these back together.

Reading books will be changed every week and the day will vary depending on the reading group your child is in, but please ensure your child brings their reading book into school in their book bag every day as adults in school love to hear your child read.



We hope this letter contains useful information for you; please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is something specific to your child that you feel we should know.

Let's have a wonderful first term in school!!

Sara, Amelia and Freya

