



Harvey Road School

Reception Class

Spring 2017

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. We will be looking at transport, Chinese New Year, shopping, healthy eating and, towards the end of the term, spring and farm animals.

Please see below for our regular routines. If these change, we will try to let you know via the weekly newsletter. Please keep reading these as they will give you ideas of how to support your child at home and keep you updated of all that is going on in school.

Wednesdays – We continue to have PE on a Wednesday afternoon. For the first half term we will do gymnastics in the hall and for the second half term we will be going outside (weather permitting).

Thursdays – Mrs Stevens will not be in class on a Thursday while she has her planning, preparation and assessment time, Mrs Garton and Mrs Michael will take the class. From this term onwards we will be joining the rest of the school for sharing assembly on a Thursday morning, this will replace the star assemblies. We will also continue to change library books.

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

Please ensure that you read regularly with your child, signing the reading record and practicing the 'quick as a click' words.

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

We continue with our daily communication and language development slot in the timetable. We will sing songs and chant nursery rhymes based around our topics. We will have regular joke spots and times when the children are encouraged to speak to larger audiences. Regular story times will happen each day linked to our topics.

Mathematics

Our focus is on calculations this term. Children will be taught how to use a variety of supportive apparatus including their fingers, a number line, counters and numicon to help them add or subtract 2 numbers. We will also show them how to hold 1 number in their head and count on to add numbers to larger integers. We will encourage children to write numbers up to 20 using the correct number formation. We will also introduce them to time and money.

Understanding the World

We will continue to explore the world around us and look at how other cultures and religions live and celebrate.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will compose their own music using a wide range of instruments. We will record their music and encourage them to be reflective about their pieces. Children will be encouraged to use colours thoughtfully when representing objects and people.

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

- Wed 18th Jan – Thanks for Thinking day
- Fri 3rd Feb – 2.15pm Stay and Play (parents/grandparents are welcome to come and be part of our class and look at your child's Learning Journey)
- Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February – Half term break.
- Week of the 27th Feb – Book week and Dad's week (are there any Dads, Grandads or Uncles who would be able to come in? We will also 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!)
- Tues 21st and Wed 22nd March – Parent Consultation evenings (school finishes at 2.30pm Tuesday 21st March)
- Wed 29th March – Early Years Easter Assembly to parents 9.15am
- Friday 31st March – end of term (school finishes at 2.30pm)
- Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April – Easter Break