



RECEPTION NEWS

ROTHWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN TERM

Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a huge well done on a fantastic first half term, we are so proud of how all the children have settled in and remained resilient during a week of remote learning in between! We thought it would be useful to consolidate any key information. Hopefully, after reading this, you will have clarity on all things related to your child's next half term in Reception Class. However, if you have any further questions/queries – don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Tapestry

We have had a few questions regarding Tapestry and how many observations you should expect to see of your child.

After the half term holidays, we will begin to use a system whereby each week in both Nursery and Reception, the practitioners will have focus children. The way this works is whereby one child will be the focus for each day for observations for their Tapestry learning journal. This will document their interests, skills and activities throughout the day. There will therefore be one focus child per day, 5 focus children per week. This may mean that you will not see any observations added to your child's profile for a while, but will then see many when it's your child's day to be the focus. We will also be recording key WOW moments alongside this. As always, we will always speak to you regarding your child's day if there is something we feel the need to share with you at home time on collection.

Please also continue to keep a look out on Tapestry as we will still continue to upload a new Tapestry weekend challenge on a Friday to complete with your child. The children are always proud to show their home learning during carpet time. We will also use Tapestry to share any key information or reminders that we feel you may need.

Phonics Information Sessions

Linking to the importance of listening to your child read at home, we will be offering a phonics information session for parents and carers. This will be to explain how we teach the children letters and sounds within school, how you can support your child with this at home and to answer any further questions you have regarding reading with your child.

This session will take place, virtually on

Tuesday 9th November at 4pm.

Zoom details will be added to Tapestry nearer the time.

In the meantime, if you have any further questions or you are looking for more information, tips and advice, please either speak to a member of staff or visit the 'Little Wandle' website:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Reading

From this week, children now have their own reading book to take home, as well as a reading record, for you to sign and comment in.

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home and so we will be placing a real emphasis on the importance of home reading.

We are now asking for book bags to be brought into school each day and they will return home each day too. Please record in your child's reading record each time they read with a grown up at home. Our minimum expectation is 3 times across the week. Little and often is key when your child first brings home a reading book as we understand they may be tired after a full day learning at school!

To begin with your child may bring home a book with no words. This is so your child can practise pre-reading skills – holding the book for themselves, turning the pages and talking about the pictures/story.

Your child's reading book will be carefully matched to your child's current phonics and reading level. Once they are securely recognising the first two sets of GPCs (phoneme grapheme correspondences) they will begin to read a book with words. This book will have already been read in school.

If you find your child is reading the book with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – this is what we are aiming for as your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Library Day

As well as bringing home a reading book, children will also be choosing their own 'love of reading' book which can be read by a grown up at home. The day for changing these books is a Thursday – please make sure books are in book bags on this day ready to be changed.

Please make sure you have given permission for this via our Google Form as without this children will be unable to take either book home.

The Great Outdoors

As the weather is changing, please be mindful that this affects our outdoor area. It becomes muddier, cold and wet. Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing to support with this. Ideally children will have their own pair of waterproof trousers (labelled with your child's name), which will stay in a small drawstring bag on their peg. Wellies can be named and placed on the welly tree outside the Reception cloakroom.

PTA Christmas Cards

This week you will receive an order form with your child's art work attached. This is their Christmas card design.

If you wish to place an order and have your child's design made into Christmas cards to send to friends and family, please follow the instructions on the form, complete the form and set up an online account.

The artwork and completed form **MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL NO LATER THAN Monday 1st November** – the first date back after the half term holiday. Any artwork not returned or returned after this date will not be collected by the courier.

Art Exhibition

The Reception children have been getting creative this half term and painting their self-portraits. We would like to hold an Art Exhibition (weather permitting) in our outside area on Friday 12th November from 2.45pm. There will be a chance to view the portraits and also purchase them for a minimum donation of £3 (to cover the frame/resources). Any donations will go into the Reception School Fund which will enable us to continue providing exciting first hand experiences and opportunities for all the children. We thank you in advance for supporting our exhibition.

Our Curriculum

Our topics for next half term are...

- Light & Dark – Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali
 - People Who Help Us
 - Christmas

Literacy

The books that we will be immersing ourselves in linked to these topics are...

- Funny Bones by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- My Mummy is a firefighter/ My Mummy is a scientist/ My Daddy is a nurse – A collection by Kerrine Bryan
 - Stick Man by Julia Donaldson

Maths

In Maths, we will begin to explore each number in depth. This half term we will revisit our learning on 0, 1 and 2. We will explore numbers 3, 4 and 5. In addition to this, we will also be doing some shape work.

Science

In Science, we will be investigating different everyday materials – looking at which materials are reflective, freezing and melting, as well revisiting and learning about different body parts within the human body.

History

In History, we will be finding out about significant people from the past...

- Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot
 - Mary Seacole

Geography

In Geography, we will begin to think about hot and cold countries.

Working together to



our potential.