



Reception and Primary 1 Curriculum meeting

General Points

- Well done for such a wonderful start to School! Your children look really smart in their new uniforms and they have all settled in really well, especially all of our new starts.
Ms Matthews and I are really enjoying teaching them and getting to know them all.
- We are encouraging children to be as independent as possible eg putting on and taking off their own coats, carrying in their own belongings, putting them in the right place in the classroom, taking off and putting on their own sweatshirt etc They are doing very well so far! Please encourage them to do this for themselves as well- especially in the mornings as they come into school on their own.
- Primary 1 and Reception children will continue to come into school through the front door unaccompanied.
- From Monday 13th September, Primary 1 will remain in school until **2pm**. Please be very prompt in collecting your child as I teach each day at 2pm in the other classes and it can become distressing for your child if their parent/ carer is late. If for any reason you are running late, just let Mrs O'Lone know and she can let me know.



See Saw Seesaw

- Thank you so much for signing up to our See-Saw app. It is a super way to help us communicate and showcase your children's learning. It has been really wonderful to see all of your comments, photographs and voice message already!

Uniform

- Please ensure that **all** items of your child's uniform is named, especially their sweatshirts, coats, hats, scarfs, gloves etc
- Please ensure that children are not wearing any jewellery into school. Earrings must be **removed** (or else covered with plasters) on PE days.
- Children wear their PE kits into School on PE days- Mondays and Thursdays. As far as possible, please provide Velcro shoes for your children if they have them.
- Please remember to send your child into School with a warm and waterproof coat.
- Thank you for all of the Welly boots that have arrived into school so far. We will be using them for our outdoor learning, visits to the beach etc Please try to send in the remainder of them asap.



Stationery

- Your children are welcome this year to bring in their own pencil case this year. Please ensure that **ALL** pencils and colouring pencils are named. Please do not send in crayons or felt tips.

Healthy Eating



- We encourage healthy eating at both break and lunch times. We also encourage children to drink water throughout the day. Please ensure that your child brings a fresh and filled water bottle to school each day. We have already had a few spillages of diluted juice and this can make a sticky mess, so if at all possible, water please.
- Drinking water regularly has been shown to aid children's concentration, memory and energy levels.
- Please ensure that **all** items of food do not contain any nuts, including items such as Nutella spread etc
- Children only have ten minutes to eat their snack in the morning, so we try to encourage them to choose just one food item to eat.
- Please tell your child each morning if they are having either Packed Lunch or else School dinner. They need to know what they are having at class registration each morning and we want to make sure that we order the correct number of school dinners each day.

Notes/ information from Parents



- Please ensure that you send a note into school for any absences or appointments that your child needs to attend. Please try to make appointments out of school hours as far as possible, although we realise this is not always possible.
- You can either notify me via our class See Saw app or Mrs O'Lone if your child is unwell and unable to attend School.

- Please inform school asap of any changes to your personal contact details, such as e mail addresses and mobile phone numbers. This is really important so that we can update our details.

Money

- All money for school dinners should be paid using the online payment system.



Personal Property- Show and Tell

- At this time especially, children should not bring in any personal toys or items to school. In Reception and Primary 1, we like to have one group of children each week taking part in 'Show and Tell'. This is where they would usually bring in an item of interest from home. They will have prepared what they want to tell us at home and then they spend time in school 'Showing and telling' their friends all about it. This plays a part in our 'Talking and Listening' aspect of Literacy. We encourage the children to think of the following words when telling us all about their item:

What have you brought to show us?
Where did you get it from?
Why did you choose this item to bring into school?
When did you get it?
Who got it for you?

As we cannot bring these items into school at present, I will be choosing one group each week to post a photograph on See Saw of them with their Show and Tell item. We will then use the interactive whiteboard in class to let them 'Show and tell'.



'Big bedtime Read -Yellow book bags'

- We hope to start sending home these lovely bags quite soon. I will include more details about the 'Big Bedtime Read' on See Saw. We intend to send one book bag home per fortnight on a Monday and we will need **all** bags to be returned on a Thursday. I will give plenty of reminders on See Saw! This is to allow us to 'quarantine' the books (in our 'book hospital') for 72 hours before we check them and then send them home to a new child. More details to follow.

Parent interviews

- If you need to speak to me about anything that is concerning you about your child, you can make an appointment via the School office or else via See Saw. Thank you.



Home Learning

- Daily reading- This will either be a Guided reading book (which will have been read that day/week in School) or an 'Easy read' book which is one level below that of their Guided Reading in School. Reading may also be set from our online 'Bug Club'. More details will follow when Primary 1 start reading.
- Children will choose one class library book to bring home on a Friday. Please enjoy this at home, take good care of it and ensure that it is returned on a Monday morning for us to quarantine.
- 'Big Bedtime Read' (yellow book bags)- A selection of books to enjoy and share with your child (at any time of the day!) to create a love of reading and books for both you and your child.

- Activity Sheets- usually one literacy and one numeracy sheet each week. This will be starting in a couple of weeks in Primary 1. More details to follow on See Saw. Please ensure that ALL activity sheets are returned to school, completed and **signed** by an adult.
- Finding out/ learning home learning- these will be linked to our class topic, phonic work and mental maths focus for the week.
- All home learning will be found in your child's blue book bag. Please ensure that their book bag is brought into school **each** day. Again we will be encouraging independence by asking your child to check it for items and to look after it carefully.

P1 Curriculum

We will be gradually increasing our expectations of your children as their concentration levels increase. Every child is uniquely individual and the rate of development for each child will be different. We will be challenging each child to reach their own potential. We cover the following areas in our Curriculum:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Play Based Learning
- The World Around Us
- ICT
- PE
- RE
- Music
- Art
- PD&MU (Personal development and Mutual understanding)

Many of these areas will be taught through a selection of topics such as:

September- October	Autumn Birthdays
November- December	Christmas Pets
January- February	Winter Houses and Homes
March- April	Spring The Farm
May- June	Summer Holidays



Numeracy



- Through a range of both written and practical activities in Play Based Learning and Task time, Children will develop knowledge, understanding and skills in:

Number

Mental maths

Measures

Shape and Space

Handling Data

Problem Solving

Literacy



- **Talking and Listening-** eg Listening to and following instructions in class, realising the importance of taking turns, putting their hand up in class, Show and Tell activities, talking and listening to each other in Circle time activities, carpet time discussions, small group and paired work.
- **Reading-** there will be a selection of Modelled, Shared, Guided and Independent reading in class.

Children in Primary 1 will be completing a range of 'phonological awareness' activities in preparation for learning their phonic sounds and High Frequency Words. Children will begin with 'wordless' reading books and will progress onto reading books with words when they are ready. It is important to realise that all children reach a stage of readiness at different stages. With this in mind, your child will receive 'reading books' when they are ready for them.

****Please remember that we will be talking about the 'sounds' that letters make rather than the letter names. If you are playing games with your child such as 'I spy', please emphasis the sound and not the letter name.**

- **Writing/ Phonic work-** Children will have opportunities to write for a variety of purposes- eg recount, procedural, report, narrative, persuasive, poetry.

We will be doing lots of modelled and shared writing activities together in class. As your child becomes familiar with their Jolly phonic sounds, they will write down any of the sounds that they can hear in our shared writing activities. We will also be using an App called 'Nessy' to help us learn our phonics this year as well.

Please ensure that when your child is attempting to write, that they use the **correct** letter formation and that they only use capital letters for the beginning of their name and beginning of a sentence. Please insist that your child endeavours to use the **correct** pencil hold. We have special pencil grips for any children who are finding this difficult to do initially. They will have lots of multi-sensory opportunities to learn the correct formation eg writing in sand, using play dough, magic paint brush writing in the air, using a paint brush, felt tips, crayons, colouring pencils, writing on white boards etc. To begin with, learning the sounds are more important than forming the letters. We will constantly be reinforcing letter formation, going over the sounds and their letter formation all of the time in class.



Play Based Learning

- Children will have opportunities on a daily basis to learn through 'Play Based Learning' either indoors or outdoors. Learning opportunities will be planned through their current topics. **They usually have access to the following Play learning areas. However, due to Covid 19 restrictions, some of these areas will currently be unavailable:

Roleplay
Playdough
Sand/ natural
Water
Construction
Small world area
Games

Creative/ Music
ICT
Wheeled vehicles
Large Construction
Gardening



The World Around Us

- We will be covering ten topics in the year (see above table). We spend time at the start of each topic planning together to find out:
 1. What do we already know?
 2. What would we like to find out?
 3. How we can find out?
 4. Who can help us to find out?
 4. What do we need to help us find out?
 5. What can we make?

Lots of the learning will happen through our Play Based Learning. Our topics will include elements of History, Geography, Science and Technology.

ICT



- Children will be completing a variety of activities on the computers each Friday in the ICT suite.

PE



- Children should come to school in their PE uniforms on a Monday and a Thursday. They will be participating in Games, Dance, Gymnastics and Athletics activities.

Reception Curriculum

- Children in Reception will be learning in the following areas:
 1. The Arts- art and design
 - music
 - drama
 2. Language Development
 3. Early Mathematical Experiences- number
 - shape
 - space
 - size and quantity
 - pattern
 - sequencing/ time
 - relationships
 4. Personal, Social and Emotional development
 - routines
 - play activities
 - stories, rhymes, music, pictures, drama
 - the environment

- Health, hygiene and Safety.

5. Physical Development and Movement

6. The World Around Us

Children in Reception will be following some of their curriculum with the Primary 1 children through Play Based Learning. At other times, they will have opportunities to work in a small group with either myself or Ms Matthews.

Finally

- Ms Matthews and I really value your support as partners with the school in your child's education, thank you!