

St Peters C of E primary School and Nursery

Reception class

September 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new academic year at St Peters school and welcome to Reception class. We hope you have all had a good summer. It has been lovely to see all the previous Nursery children coming back to school and we welcome children who are new to St Peters into our Reception. We have been very impressed with how quickly the children have settled in and made new friends. This year in Reception there will be 2 teachers. Mrs James:- who will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Mrs Hyde who will be in reception on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We have Teaching Assistants, Linda Simmonds and Audrey Campbell who will be with the class all week.

This half term our topic is 'Ourselves'. We will be learning about the way we look, our families, where we live and things we can do. At the beginning of the term we will be concentrating on settling in new children, giving them time to become familiar with their new class, the routines and the staff.

To help our topic, please could your child bring in a photo of your family and also let us know which country/countries your family comes from. We are interested to know where parents and grandparents are from. This will be part of our hall display so please do give us a photo that you don't mind us displaying in the hall. If you have any photos of your family wearing traditional clothes that would be really nice for us to display. We will return all photos to you but not until December when the hall display comes down.

Reading

At St Peters, all children from Nursery to Year 6 should be reading at home. This forms an important part of your child's education and gets them into good habits with working at home. We will change your childrens books once a week on a Tuesday. So please ensure that you return all books on that day. Children will be given 2 books:- a reading scheme book chosen by the teacher and a book that the child choses to take home. Sometimes these books maybe too difficult for your child to read so you should read it to them and talk lots about the story together. Your child's reading day will change each week so it is important that you keep your reading books and reading diary in the book bag all the time. We will read with your child once a week in school. The children will also have lots of opportunities to enjoy books throughout the week at school.

Phonics

We have a phonics session every day in Reception. Each week we will be learning 4 new sounds and some tricky words. Mrs Hyde will hold a short meeting with parents on Friday mornings as you drop your children off at 9:00. This will take place just outside the classroom and she will go through the sounds we have learnt that week with you so that you know how to say the sounds.. We will start this on Friday 23rd September.

Drop everything and Read

We welcome all parents and carers to come into class on a Friday morning from 09:00- 09:30 for a drop everything and read session. This is where everyone in the class reads books and looks at books. It is really good if parents come along and read with a group of children. Even if you can only stay for 10 minutes we would love you to come.

PE

Most of our Physical development will be provided for by our inside and outside provision, however we do have a hall time when we may go into the hall to play games or practise some PE skills. Our hall time is on Thursday mornings. They do not need to change for PE they will just take off their shoes and socks.

Observations and WOW sheets

In the Early Years we spend much time observing the children and noting their comments and achievements. We will be introducing WOW sheets which you can take home and if your child does or says something outside school time which you consider note-worthy you can write it on the Wow sheet. Please make sure you date these for us and we will include these in your child's Learning Journey.

Labelling clothes

Could I remind you to ensure that all your child's clothing and bags are clearly marked with their name.

Safety

Please remember that children should not be climbing on the climbing frame before school. We cannot be responsible for any accidents and the climbing frame is often wet in the mornings.

Jewellery

Please can you ensure your child only wears stud earrings to school, as bigger earrings can be dangerous. No other jewellery should be worn in Reception, the only exception is a small crucifix.

Homework

Homework in Reception will be to read every evening and to practise letters sounds that come home each week. There will also be a Home Learning Journal with activities for children to complete. We will discuss this at the Parents meeting on Thursday 22nd September.

Please do not hesitate to come and speak to any member of the Reception Team, should you have any questions or concerns. We hope we can work together to provide your child with the best possible start to their education.

Settling In

We've had a fantastic first couple of weeks- Well Done Reception. We've been busy exploring, learning new routines and of course making new friends!! Take a look at what we've been up to...

In the classroom



Learning Outdoors



