

February 2023

Dear families

Term 4 Information for Reception.

Welcome back to school! We hope that you enjoyed the half term break. Please see below for important dates and information which will be relevant for this fun-packed term.

New this term:

- **Bedtime Bear** will be introduced this term. Each week two children from each class will be chosen to take home the Bedtime Bear. The Bedtime Bear Bag will include: Cuddly bear, hot chocolate sachets and stories to share as family at bedtime. This is to encourage a love of reading and sharing as a family. Over the next three terms every child will have an opportunity to have the Bedtime Bear stay for a sleepover at their house. When your child brings it home please send it back to school on the following Monday.
- **Welly Walks:** We are excited to begin Welly Walks every other Wednesday. This is where we will be donning our appropriate weather gear and exploring the local area. More information to follow and we look forward to some of you coming as parent helpers.
- **Books and Biscuits:** On **Mondays and Thursdays** we invite you to come and read with your child and have a biscuit! After the children have been dismissed, you are invited to come back into the classroom to read your child's home reading book. This is especially helpful for reluctant readers and if you struggle to find time fitting it in. This has been successful last year and is continued in Year 1.
- **P.E.** will continue to be on **Tuesday**. Please send children to school dressed in their PE kit. We will endeavour to be outside as much as possible, so please ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather.
- **Forest school:** We will continue to have forest school on a **Monday** in the afternoon. If your child does not already have named wet weather gear and wellies in school please bring them in.
- **Reading:** We will continue to change children's reading books **every week on a Friday**. Children should bring their reading book and reading record into school every day. Children will bring home one phonetically decodable book appropriate for their reading level which they will be able to decode and read independently, and one 'sharing' book to share with the family. Children will not be expected to read the sharing book independently. The purpose is to expose children to a variety of stories, vocabulary, and knowledge. Please record any reading your child does at home in their reading record, as these will be checked by class teachers on a weekly basis. If you have any questions about reading with your child, please speak to a member of the team.
- **Uniform** – Please continue to ensure all uniform, packed lunches, drink bottles, etc. are labelled clearly.

WORK HARD, BE KIND

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- **Spare clothes** – it would be helpful to have a change of clothes and underwear to keep in school in case of accidents. Please place on pegs in a named bag. If anyone has any spare underwear or clothes they would like to donate for the reception classes to use, then we would be very grateful as we often run out.

Learning to Learn at home:

- **Reading:** Children are expected to read and/or practise their phonics sounds and blending words at least 4 times per week.

Important dates:

Date	Event
Wednesday 22 February	Welly Walk
Tuesday 28 February	PJ Story Night for World Book Day
Wednesday 1 March	World Book Day
Thursday 2 March	The Great Footy and Booky Quiz
Friday 3 March 08:30-08:50	Lower School Open Door AND Phonics Stay and Learn – after exploring the children’s learning you are invited to stay for our morning phonics lesson.
Monday 27 February – Friday 3 March	World Book Week
Wednesday 8 March	Welly Walk
Monday 13 – Friday 17 March	Travelling Book Fair
Monday 13 – Friday 17 March	British Science Week
Tuesday 14 March	CLF Big Day of Maths
Wednesday 22 March	Welly Walk
Thursday 23 March 15:30-19:00	Parents’ and Carers’ Evening
Tuesday 28 March 15:30–18.30	Parents’ and Carers’ Evening (Letter to follow)
Friday 31 March	Last day of Term 4

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Reception team.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Reception Team

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