

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception! We have really enjoyed getting to know all your children over the past week, and it has been lovely to see everyone making such a positive start to school. We are settling into our routines well and beginning to make new friends along the way.

I am Ms Harmer, the class teacher and Mrs Oliver will be teaching every Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon when I am out of class. Miss Metzner, Miss George and Miss McGaughey are our brilliant teaching assistants.

- Please find attached our learning journey for the term, which is going to be based around Celebrations. Following this information, you will find a Take Away Task for you to complete over this half-term with your children.
- The Tapestry app is a great way to keep up to date with everything we are doing in class, so please look out for regular updates. You can also upload photos and events to Tapestry for us to share, especially of any celebrations, as this is our focus for the term. The children love sharing these with their friends, and it is a great opportunity for developing talking and listening skills. I will also add useful links to our learning stories to help you support your children's learning at home. We need your permission to share your child's photo's so if you have not had the chance to complete the Tapestry form yet ask me for one at drop off.
- Please make sure your children wear trainers or shoes that they can fasten themselves and that they can run in.
- PE will be on Tuesdays. We are not getting changed for PE, so we do not require kits in school.
- All children do require a named water bottle, which are available to buy from the office or you can use your own. **Please label all items of uniform, coats, and lunchboxes to enable us to help the children look after their things.**
- Children should bring in a school book bag daily, to help take their creations home and to carry their books and home learning, which we will start sending home shortly.
- For health and safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and jewellery should not be worn, except for small earring studs. Nail varnish is also not permitted.

We are keen to help our children understand their differences and celebrate what makes them unique. We invite you to come into our class and share something from your culture with the children. We welcome all cultures, and it really helps the children understand the world around them. This could be anything: a song, a rhyme, a dance, an art or craft activity, an artefact, a special costume, a cooking/tasting activity, or photos of a special event. Please do come and tell us if you have something you would like to share with the children.

We will be starting home reading shortly and you will get a separate letter explaining this. The children will be given a phonics book on a **Thursday which must be returned to school on the following Monday.**

They will have read the book three times during the week and daily reading of these books will greatly support your child's learning. In addition, the children will bring home a book to read for pleasure, which is for you to read to them. These can be changed by the children daily in class. Please fill in your child's yellow Reading Record with all your home reading.

Your child's well-being is of utmost importance to us, so please come and have a chat at pick-up time. Do not hesitate to approach us if you have any concerns or issues. Thank you in anticipation of your support, and we look forward to getting to know you and your children well over the coming year.

With kind regards,
Ms Harmer, Mrs Oliver and the Reception Team