



## **Year R Information Leaflet for Parents 2024/2025**

Staff :

Mrs Mandy Powell - Starfish class  
Mrs Julie Jewell - Octopus class  
Mrs Jenny Walker - Octopus class  
Mrs Sharona Key-Barry/  
Mrs Hannah Harrison (PPA cover teachers)

Mrs Maryevonne Black, Miss Kate Pullin, Miss Rachael Heyes

### **The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum**

Since September 2000 a 'Foundation Stage' has been established for our youngest children. It gives this very important stage of education a distinct identity and is rooted in play-based learning and practical activity both indoors and out of doors. This has been through many updates and from September 2021 we have had a new EYFS curriculum. There are 7 areas of learning:

**Three Prime areas** which work together to support development in all other areas

- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development



**Four Specific areas** which include essential skills and knowledge

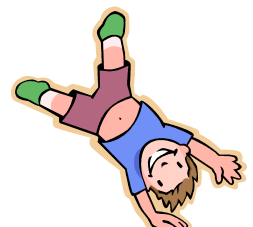
- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Our curriculum is delivered through projects that change each term. These projects each have a different focus/enquiry question covering a range of curriculum areas. An overview will be sent out each half-term.

### **Visits and Visitors**

Outings and visiting speakers are arranged to support our learning. During the year we hope to visit St Peter's Church, enjoy a village walk and a trip with an animal theme!

Other trips may also take place during the year; parents/carers are always given details of forthcoming visits.





## School Key Values/Class Reward System

We believe that our school values encourage appropriate behaviour. These are Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient and Always aiming high. The children are rewarded for showing the school values and as a class work together towards a termly reward to which everyone contributes. In addition, we celebrate children 'noticed' doing the Jigsaw weekly celebration by writing their name on the scroll displayed in the classroom. Jigsaw is a whole school mindful approach to deliver the PSHE curriculum, which as a school we use throughout all year groups for our weekly Jigsaw lessons.



## Reading

Reading is an integral part of our daily literacy sessions. Children regularly read with an adult in group guided reading sessions and sometimes on a one-to-one basis. Your child bringing home a book to share really supports this work in class. The children's books will be changed every Thursday and returned to you on Friday. We will assess your child regularly to see which band they are in and will write this in their reading record. Currently most children are on Lilac.



Please set aside a few minutes each day to share your child's reading book and complete the record book on a regular basis. Further information will be provided in our Reading workshop in a few weeks.

## Phonics

We are using 'Read Write Inc' to teach phonics across the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1. Initially we learn the sounds and how to blend and segment words (further information will be available at a Phonics Information session later in the term). Guided reading will form part of our phonic sessions and we will follow the Read Write Inc books for this. Individual reading will still follow the banded books in the classroom.

## Maths

As a school we follow the Maths Mastery approach and produce our planning and resources from this. We will also be using the CBeebies 'Numberblocks' as part of our lessons and many of these episodes are available on BBC iPlayer. To support your child's maths learning at home, ideas and activities will be suggested on the weekly Seesaw bulletins or set as homework.

## Home learning

As well as daily reading, we will be sending home the sounds and numbers we have worked on during the week in your child's bookbag. Please remember to check this regularly and work on these with your children. In the week before half term, we will post home learning on Seesaw when we ask you to go on an Autumn walk together! After half term, as well as the weekly phonics and Numicon practice, there will be a word wallet to help learn tricky words and an additional task which will be sent out weekly via Seesaw and in a homework book. This will usually alternate between maths and literacy.

## Learning Journals

We continue to keep Learning Journals for each child during the Reception Year. These are usually available for you to view at various times during the year at Celebration of work afternoons. As part of collecting observations, we will be using the online tool Seesaw which gives you the opportunity to view your child's learning and contribute to it. We also encourage you to share your child's successes at home by filling in 'proud clouds'. These will be celebrated in school and put into your child's journal.

## Forest Schools

We are delighted that Miss Heyes will be leading regular Forest schools' sessions for the children across the year on Wednesday afternoons. Further information will be given when your child will be taking part.

## PE

PE usually takes place on Friday. We ask that your child's **named** PE kit is kept in a roomy draw string bag and stays in school at all times. We will send it home at the end of each half-term to enable you to wash it and to check that plimsolls still fit!

*If your child has pierced ears, please remove or tape earrings on PE days.*



## Assemblies

Whole school/Key stage assemblies take place every day. Reception children will be gradually joining these when appropriate.



## **Partnership with Parents/Carers**

- We would love to welcome Parent helpers into the classrooms and to assist us with visits. This does not start until the second half of the Autumn term. If you are able to do this, please complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS). This can be arranged through the office.
- The unit will be open every Wednesday for you to come in and have a look at the classroom with your child. We also have a large selection of games and puzzles which you are welcome to borrow on the same day.
- There are many other ways that parents can help us at school e.g. PTA events, gardening, sewing nativity costumes, 'one off' talks to the children about occupations or skills/hobbies etc. Please see Mrs Jewell if you think you could help the school in any way.

## **A few extra reminders.....**

### **Drinks**

We ask you to provide a drink (this should be water) in a named, spill proof bottle. Children are allowed access to this throughout the day and the bottle will be refilled with water if necessary.

### **Packed lunch**

If your child is having a packed lunch, we ask that all food is nut free as we do have children/staff with allergies. No fizzy drinks or sweets/chocolate please.

### **Coats**

Please can children have a coat in school everyday as we try to get them out in the fresh air whatever the weather. We would also be really grateful if you could practise turning the sleeves the right way once a coat has been taken off, as the children are finding this tricky at present!

### **Collecting your child after school**

Children are dismissed from the classroom doors at 3.15pm. Please let us know if your child is to be collected by a different person from usual. You can do this by telephoning/emailing the school office or by writing us a short note to pass on at the gate in the morning. Pick-up time is very busy on the playground - please do not allow your children to ride bikes or scooters or play on the climbing equipment.



### **Newsletters and Information**

Letters giving you general school information will be sent to you by email or in the Newsflash. Letters giving information specific to Year R will also be emailed and posted on Seesaw. Please check Seesaw regularly for updates.