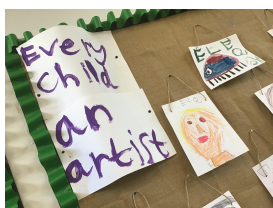


# Reception Newsletter

## 20th September, 2023



## Dear Reception families,

In this Newsletter, you will find the following information:

- Welcome from our Head of Reception
- Start and Finish times
- Lunch and ordering at home on School Grid
- PE kits
- Global Goals Week
- Reading Books
- Names on clothing
- £5 fund
- Tapestry

### Welcome from our Head of Reception



In our lifetime, we meet many new beginnings and 'changes of season'. Starting school is undoubtedly a grande milestone. The Early Years journey is enthralling and beautiful. It is a transformational time in which the buds of new beginnings blossom into something and someone quite extraordinary.

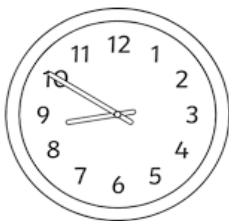
It has been a pleasure to welcome so many Beaver Road newbies to our school community, in the last couple of weeks, as well as reacquainting with our Nursery graduates. Having a parent or family presence to support with making that step into the unknown is really empowering for little ones and we have greatly enjoyed getting to know you and sharing any reassurances that might ease that transition, especially when a few inevitable tears fall things can seem a bit

daunting. We will become firm friends over the next year and you will be amazed at how your child develops in this very special and unique year. The early years are a magical time for many reasons...and we cannot wait to get started!

As there is an enormous amount of new information to share and absorb, we thought a few headlines for the practical things would be a great place to start and really smooth the way for the term ahead. Please know that we welcome any and all questions and would recommend that you always speak with one of the team if you need some clarification or have any questions.

### Start and finish times

#### Start of the day



We open our doors at 8:50am at the start of each day. Parents and Carers, you are welcome to accompany your child into class on their first day, their second day...and maybe their third if you think it is necessary. From next week (beginning 25th), all of our new starters will have been enrolled so children will be welcomed independently of parents. This does not mean that you are locked out! There will be

many occasions throughout the Reception year when we will extend a warm invitation for you to join us.

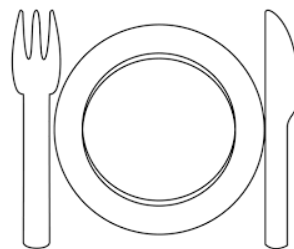
#### End of day

RNH and RS leave at 3:10pm

RO, RB and RSH leave at 3:20pm

End-of-day times are staggered due to the huge number of children we need to release safely. We navigate this routine by insisting that our class children remain in a line as we dismiss, one by one. Please resist the urge to beckon to your child and invite them to exit if we have not yet seen / acknowledged you. We need to make certain of each child's safe dismissal. Thank you for your patience.

#### Lunch and ordering in advance on School Grid



All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children have the universal offer of a free lunch.

To order your child's lunch you must have completed / returned the School Grid form in your starter pack. We have spare sheets if necessary.

Each week, please make your menu choices at home so you can help your child choose a varied diet. The catering team can ensure It helps our catering team greatly if menu choices can be made in advance. Thank you for your assistance with this.

## PE



PE sessions take place each Monday with Mr Knowles and Mr Josh. It is easier for your child's kit to remain in school, in their locker and we will return this to you, periodically at the end of each half term.

## Global Goals Week



As a response to the 'half-time conversation' through Global Goals week, we will be introducing the children to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and thinking hard about how we can make a difference. Reception

(along with all of school) will be putting forward class pledges related to one goal or a family of goals. We will feature in a school-wide display 'installation' as a way of showing committing and publishing our pledges. Please keep an eye on Twitter X for more developments.

## Reading Books



You will have received a new reading diary, letter and set of three books. The letter details everything about our reading programme for this half term including our when we change books. A copy was also emailed, just recently.

Welcome to Reading in Reception. Reading, of course, is a multi-faceted skill - from the mechanics of phonemes and graphemes to meaning and motivation. In the early years at Beaver Road, we use a balanced approach to the teaching of reading. We follow the Essential Letters and Sounds phonics programme which is designed to build children's decoding capacity, i.e. sounding out words into component parts and blending into full words. Alongside the mechanics of decoding, other word-reading strategies are used: visual clues, pictures, sight-reading (words that cannot be broken into phonic building blocks), and working out a word from the context of others. Comprehension, interpretation, imagining and inferring are skills that run in tandem to the word-reading elements. In this way, children can be discerning and enjoy a holistic reading experience.

### **Home Reading**

In the first half term, we will share three home reading books per week. Books will be changed each Friday and an entry will be made in your reading diary. Books must be brought to school in a Beaver Road book bag.



Your child will receive:

We have more to share with you about reading in Reception and we will talk to you about all the detail during our Curriculum Zoom Session on 27th September.

### Names on clothing



Please can you ensure that all items of uniform, outdoor clothing, shoes, water bottles and lunch bags are clearly marked with your child's name. It is impossible to reacquaint children with cardigans / jumpers if they are unnamed. Thank you for help with this!

### Paint / overalls



It has come to our attention that the 'washable paint' we use might not be everything it says on the tin! As a precaution and to avoid permanent staining on clothing, we will ensure full length shirts are in use as well as restocking our paint with a different brand as and when it needs replenishing.

### £5 fund



Each term, we invite families to make a voluntary contribution of

£5 to fund additional projects (craft supplies, cooking etc). No need to access ParentPay for this - we are happy to accept cash donations on the door.

### Tapestry



We hope you have been able to download The Tapestry app which will allow you to view your child's online learning journey, through photos, videos, commentary and notes. We use Tapestry to capture your child's learning and tag the particular areas that are linked. You can view, like and respond to all our posts and you can also upload your own observations. Please look out for an email with a Tapestry activation link to start your Tapestry journey.

Wishing you all a wonderful week!

Warmest wishes, Hilary Silva, on behalf of Reception Team

