



Archbishop Runcie Church of England (VA) First School

Christon Road, Gosforth, NE3 1US
0191 285 2663 admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs KE Massey

Welcome to Reception Newsletter!

September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely and relaxing summer. I am feeling very excited for the new school year and hope you are too! This is an exciting time for you and your child as they begin a new chapter in their school life and for us as a school to welcome you all.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Welcome Meeting last term to meet me and hear about our expectations for the year. The PowerPoint is attached for those of you who were unable to attend.

Staffing

This year, Mrs Brown, Mrs Hannaby and Mr Brown will be working in Reception as classroom support. They are also very excited to get to know everybody!

Mr Brown is our EYFS Medicines Lead and First Aider. If your child requires medicine during the school day, please contact him via will.brown@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk. You will need to meet with him before school begins to ensure medication forms are completed.

Drop off and collection

There is a staggered time for children to be dropped off in the mornings. This is from 8:35-8:45am via the Reception classroom door. Initially, I will be there to greet the children and take any messages you may have. Children will also be collected at 3.15pm from this door.

Learning

Initially, we will be focusing on settling the children into their new classroom and routines. We will spend time exploring all the areas in our classroom, as well as the outdoors. All children are different, some children will settle more quickly than others. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Our topic this half term is, 'Traditional Tales'. During this topic, we will explore a range of stories as well as familiar rhymes and songs. To help support your child further at home, you could read a range of traditional tales, encourage children to get dressed independently and encourage your child to use both a knife and fork at mealtimes.

Each half term, I will send home a knowledge organiser so you know what your child is learning at school.

I promise to try and update Twitter as much as possible, so keep your eyes peeled for posts to see what we are up to each week. You can find us at @RuncieOf.

We use Tapestry as a form of home/school communication in Nursery and Reception. We will evidence and share photos and videos of key learning until the children record more formally in exercise books at the end of Reception. We would also love to see any home learning/news on Tapestry too.

PE

PE will be taught on a Thursday morning. Children will need to arrive to school wearing their school uniform and will change into their PE kits at school. This will help to develop their independence with dressing themselves. Children will need royal blue shorts, navy joggers, a yellow t-shirt and trainers which are all labelled please! Children may leave their PE kit on their peg in the Reception cloakroom area. Children must be able to fasten their own shoes so please do not send lace up shoes unless they can fasten them independently.

Jewellery

Please can I ask that children do not wear any jewellery on any day for school. Thank you. Children wearing jewellery will be asked to remove it and bring it home. We cannot be held responsible if it goes missing.

Snacks and water

All children should bring a named water bottle each day containing water only. This will be taken home each evening to wash in preparation for the next day. Children will be provided with a fruit or vegetable snack each day at school.

Reading

We will be starting our journey with Read Write Inc this week. We will begin to give out reading books during this half term, once children have been introduced to some letter sounds.

Books will then be changed weekly. Your child will bring home a book bag book and be allocated an e-book via our online platform, Oxford Owls. Reading is the most important skill children will learn at First School. We will continue to use book bags to bring books in and out of school. As ever, we strongly encourage daily reading at home with an adult please. Please write a short comment in your child's reading record every night. The Reading Records have a daily slot and will be dated for each week commencing. Staff will listen to children read at least once each week but these records are held separately in school.

On Wednesday 4th September you are invited to join us for a Reception reading workshop where we will explain the Read Write Inc scheme that we use and discuss how to support your child at home.

Statutory Tests

In the first week of Reception, children will undertake The Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills undertaken when they first begin school (see attached information leaflet).

At the end of your child's time in Reception they will be assessed against the 17 Early Learning Goals (Early Years Foundation Stage Profile).

Other belongings needed

Please could you ensure that all children's items brought into school are named? These may include: water bottles, coats, wellies and PE kit (and anything else!). As the weather gets colder, children are welcome to bring in named hats/gloves etc in a spare bag to be stored on their peg.

Donations

Any spare underwear and uniform donations would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Visits & Visitors

This year, visits out of school and visitors into school will be linked to our learning each term. We have already got most trips planned to match our learning. If you have a particular knowledge of any of our curriculum areas we would welcome your expertise!

Homework

Inside your child's reading record you will find a login for Ten Town and Oxford Owls. Please access these sites with your child in order to practice numbers and read your children's reading books and answer quizzes. This will all be fully explained at our reading meeting.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to email me at the below address.

I'm really looking forward to the year ahead and welcoming your children into Reception!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Egdell

emily.egdell@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Autumn Term Dates		
Monday 2nd September	All day	Staff training day – school closed to children
Friday 6th September		Parents invited for lunch
Wednesday 4th September	5.30pm	Reception reading workshop
Thursday 19th September		Vision screening
Monday 30th September		Height and weight checks
Friday 25th September	All day	Staff training day – school closed to children

Please also check the newsletter for new, upcoming dates or any changes. Thank you!

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14