



# ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND

## (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

### Reception Newsletter 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Archbishop Runcie and the first half term in Reception! I hope everyone has had a relaxing summer holiday. This is an exciting time for you and your child as they begin a new chapter in their school life.

This half term we will be focusing on settling the children into their new classroom. We will spend time exploring all the areas in our classroom, as well as the outdoor areas. Our topic this half term is 'Once Upon a Time'. During this topic, we will explore a range of traditional tales and end the topic with a story party hosted by Seven Stories Library on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Other key dates for Reception this half term are:

- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Reception children half days
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Reception Parents Lunch – 11:20am
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Reception children full days (Tea and Tissues in the hall)
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Welcome meeting – 9am, Roald Dahl Day (Children invited to dress up as their favourite character), Welcome back BBQ – 4-6pm
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Reading and Phonics Workshop – 9am
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Macmillan Coffee Afternoon – 2pm
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Parents Evening
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Story Party
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Staff Training Day (School closed to children)

We will begin to give out reading books after the reading and phonics workshop on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Books will then be changed on a Monday morning, when children will be given two or three books to read during the following week. We will occasionally keep book bags overnight if we have not had time to change books during the school day. It is important to re-read texts to develop their fluency and pace; these are skills which are hard to establish in a first read through, so we would ask that children read both books at least twice before the following Monday. Please make a short comment in your child's reading record each time you hear them read, which should be daily. Please could you also ensure book bags are brought to school every day, checked for letters every night and old letters removed, thank you.

PE will usually be taught on a Thursday. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of named trainers for outdoor PE lessons. It would be very helpful if any child with long hair could have their hair tied up in a ponytail on this day too. Please do not send in trainers with laces unless children are able to tie them.

Children should also bring in a water bottle each Monday. Please remember this should be filled with water only. This will then be sent home each Friday to be washed, ready for the following week. A healthy snack is also provided each day for children in Reception.

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.

We are planning further visits and trips throughout the year to hook children into our topics and further develop their knowledge of the world. Information about these trips and their cost will be available to you as soon as they are arranged.

The classroom is a busy place – there's always jobs to do! If any parents feel they can donate any (regular) spare time, who would be interested in coming into school to help, please let me know!

If you have any questions, please do pop in to see me at the end of the school day, once all children have been dismissed or if you would prefer to contact me by email, the address is:  
[katie.wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:katie.wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

I look forward to the start of an exciting year in Reception!

Yours sincerely

Miss Wilkinson