




Reception News



September 2021

What is it like starting school?

Hello! We hope you have had a lovely summer break and you are all ready for the fun and exciting year ahead we have planned at Westways! This is the first edition of our half termly Reception newsletter, which we hope will keep you informed about the learning taking place in school.

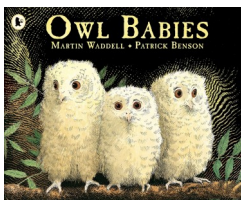
The staff in Reception this year are: Miss  Gunny and Miss  Stigant in Ladybirds; Miss Sczesniok and Mrs Underwood in  Bees; and Miss Allsop and Ally in Dragonflies.

English

We will be introducing our Read Write Inc. programme after the first few weeks of being in school. We will begin by learning a sound a day and introducing the children to Fred Frog, who helps us read! As the first half term progresses, we will begin to work at CVC words (e.g. cat, c-a-t; sat s-a-t; mat, m-a-t-).



We will be using two focus texts this half-term: 'The Hedgehog' by Roderick Hunt and 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell. From these stories we will be focusing on children's communication and listen skills, as well as introducing mark making for a purpose (e.g. drawing and labelling characters and settings).



For the first half term, we will be looking at the children's families and what makes them special. We will be talking about their favourite activities and toys, as well as what they did over the summer.

We will also be exploring our school by introducing the children to different members of staff who they will come across during their year in Reception. They will meet our office staff, members of our school's leadership team, our cook Carl and many others!

Treasure Boxes

Over the summer holidays, we asked if you would like to make a treasure box from an old shoe box or cereal box and decorate it, putting in 5 things that are special to your child. The boxes could contain a family photograph, a favourite toy or even shells from the beach!



We will let you know when to bring the boxes into school to share with the other children in the classroom. We will then try and return the boxes within a couple of days as we know they might contain many precious things!

Contact Details

Your child's teacher can be contacted by email through enquiries@westways.sheffield.sch.uk if you have anything you wish to discuss with them.


Maths

We begin the year by focusing on recognising numbers to 10 and 20. We will be looking at place value to 20, developing accurate number formation and counting forwards and backwards from both 10 and 20.



We will also be looking at visual representations of the number order, and the quantity of each number through the introduction of Numicon.

PE

This term we have a specialist PE and sport teacher called  Mr Millns, who will take each class for PE once a week. This half term we will be taking part in Athletics. We will be looking several running, jumping and throwing events, allowing for both lots of practise and some fun competitions. PE days for Reception are as follows:

Ladybirds: Wednesday & Friday

Dragonflies: Wednesday & Friday

Bees: Wednesday & Thursday

Children should come dressed in their PE kit on their PE days (white t-shirt, dark shorts, leggings/joggers and a sweater together with trainers/plimsolls). PE lessons will be outside whenever possible. Please **remove all jewellery** at home on PE days. If your child is unable to do PE, they must present a note explaining why they are exempt.