



## Elm Class Information - September 2016

Welcome to Reception (Elm Class). I am really looking forward to teaching your child this year and starting their school journey with them.

### Staffing in Elm Class

Miss Hayter - Class Teacher

Miss Bloomfield - Trainee Teacher

Miss Bell - Teaching Assistant

Please note on a Thursday I will not be in class as this is my management and paperwork time. If you need to relay any information please speak to Miss Bloomfield or Miss Bell and they will pass this on to me. Miss Bloomfield will also be out of class on a Friday as she is at university. Mrs Dove will be teaching in the Elm Class on a Thursday afternoon.

### Routines

Parents are welcome to come into the classroom and help settle children in the mornings for the first term. You can encourage your child to put their book bag in the box and hang their things on their peg before finding an activity they would like to play with.

### Topic

Our topic this term is 'Magic Me'. Please see our topic map.

### Timetable

Please see our class timetable, this will show you how your child's day will be structured at school. In the Foundation Stage we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum which is all about learning through play.

### PE

The children will have PE on a Friday morning with Mr Nobes. Children should have a named PE kit on their peg including a pair of PE shoes. Please try to encourage your child to dress and undress independently at home as this will help them be prepared for when they will do this at school.

### Clothing

Please ensure all your child's clothes are clearly labelled including shoes.

### Book Bags and Reading

Reading records and books will be handed out by the end of this week.

Please ensure your child brings their book bag, reading record and book into school every day and places it in the book bag box. We are currently assessing the children's phonics knowledge to see if any children are ready for a school reading book. Most children will bring home a story book from the book corner for parents to read to their child until they have enough phonic awareness for a school reading book. Please read with your child for ten minutes every day and sign their reading record when they have read. We will change your child's book once we know it has been read. Each child will take part in guided reading and shared reading at school. We will not read on a one to one basis with the children until they are on a school reading book with words. There are some handy reading tips stuck in the front of your child's reading record.

## **Reports**

If your child did not attend Nursery at Fir Tree please can you bring their leavers report from their previous setting so that we can take a photocopy for our records. We are currently assessing the children at the moment and this information would be valuable.

## **Key Workers**

Each child will be allocated a key worker; this person is responsible for keeping your child's learning journey up to date. A letter will be sent out shortly letting you know who this person is.

## **Learning Journeys**

Each child in the Foundation Unit has a Learning Journey that documents their learning. Inside are short observations, photographs, work samples and learning stories amongst lots of other things. We were hoping to be using a new online system but unfortunately we are still awaiting delivery of the technology we need for this. Therefore we are sticking with the old paper system at the moment.

## **Home Learning**

A letter will be sent out every Friday which will give you an overview of what the children have been learning in class that week. There may be suggestions of how you might like to carry learning on at home and occasionally a specific activity. There will also be activity packs available that can be signed out on a Friday and returned by the following Wednesday. These will be practical activities you can do at home.

## **Wow Slips**

Wow slips will be sent home regularly for you to share the wonderful things your child has been doing at home. These are shared with the class, then displayed before being stuck into your child's learning journey. A wow slip can celebrate anything that you would like your child to get recognition for e.g., Recognising numerals to 10, riding a bike, setting the table etc.

## **Water and snack**

Each child has their own named water bottle in class which they have access to throughout the day. Fresh fruit and milk are provided for the children to have as a snack each day. We are currently training the children on how to use this self serve area.

## **School dinners and lunch time**

School dinners are free for Reception children. If your child is having a school dinner please get them to tick off their dinner choice, this will be placed on the easel outside each morning. A menu has been sent home. If your child is having a packed lunch they need to place it on the lunch box trolley in the classroom. When children enter the classroom in the morning they are asked to move their name in our self-registration system which lets us double check every child has got a dinner for lunchtime.

## **Junk Modelling**

If you have any bottle lids, yoghurt pots, kitchen roll tubes, old birthday cards or magazines, or food boxes please bring them in so the children can use them for junk modelling.

## Toys

Please deter your child from bringing toys into school as they can cause arguments and we cannot be responsible if they get lost or broken.

## Expectations and Rewards

Class rules - we have used puppets to role play why we need rules this week. The children have agreed on a set of rules they feel the class should follow:

- We walk and talk inside.
- We respect each other.
- We take care of our classroom and outdoor area.

Children will be rewarded with stickers for following class rules. Later on in the year they will start to collect house points.

## Behaviour System

Green, yellow and red faces are used to monitor behaviour across the school. Our aim is that by following class rules all children will stay on the green face. Children are moved to yellow or red for negative behaviours. Being on the red face means your child will be asked to sit on the thinking spot for five minutes to think about their behaviour. Being on a red face can result in missing your golden time. We try to keep parents informed if your child moves onto the red face.

**Golden time** - Every Friday afternoon the whole school are rewarded with Golden time session for those children who remained on the green face. They get the opportunity to pick an activity to do for half an hour e.g. Lego, film, colouring

**Gold Book** - Every Friday two children will be chosen for the Gold book award in celebration assembly. These are picked by the class teacher and are given for stand out behaviour or work during the week,

## Important Dates

Individual photos - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September

Time to read -Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Eat lunch with your child -Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Nativity - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - 9.30am

Nativity - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - 2.00pm

## Questions

If you have any questions please come and see me before or after school and I will be happy to discuss them with you.

Many thanks

Miss Hayter