

Cannon Lane Primary School Welcome to Reception



Dear Parents and Carers

The children are at the end of their first week in Reception at Cannon Lane and we are delighted at how well they are settling in. It is so important for them to feel happy, safe and successful during their first days of school. The atmosphere in all the classrooms is calm and the children are fully engaged in their new environment.

Over the next couple of weeks the teachers and staff will work closely with each child to get to know their strengths and identify their next steps. The children will also get to know their classmates and begin to find their way around the school.

Lunch

Monday 18th will be the children's first day staying for lunch at Cannon Lane. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals. If you would like your child to have a hot school meal, the menu is available on our website. Please take a look at the menu with your child so they will be familiar with the choices. If your child has any dietary requirements or allergies please inform your class teacher or school office before Monday 18th. If you would prefer your child to have a packed lunch please ensure you label their lunch bag and do not include any nuts or fizzy drinks. Please see the following link if you need ideas for healthy lunch boxes <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#22W4HWpwDi70PO1W.97>

Curriculum Workshop

We will be holding a curriculum workshop for parents and carers on **Wednesday 4th October**. This workshop will provide an overview of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum as well as the Early Learning Goals which are assessed at the end of Reception. The workshop will be held at 2pm and repeated again at 6pm.

Autumn Term Topic

This term we have two themes that run through all the learning and activities: first half term **Ourselves**; second half term **People Who Help Us**. In Maths, the children will be measuring each other and comparing heights; using shapes to create people; using positional and directional language. The children will also work on their number skills including counting, adding and taking away. Literacy activities will include describing themselves and their families; labelling parts of their bodies; making My Family books; recording what they see and hear around them. In the second half term we will be using non-fiction books to learn about people who help us such as doctors, firefighters, police officers. The children will learn to share and take turns with their new classmates and develop positive relationships with children and adults.

Phonics

Once the children have settled in, we will begin daily phonics teaching. The children will learn letter sounds and tricky words. Phonics is one of the tools we use in our teaching of reading and writing. Daily phonics teaching will continue throughout the whole Reception year.

We will be hosting a Phonics Workshop for parents and carers of children in Reception and Year 1 **Thursday 23rd November 2017** at 2pm

Reading books

Each child will read with their teacher in a small group every week. Your child will then take their reading book home. Please practise reading the book with your child. The Reading Record should be signed and any comments you wish to add can be written in there. Please also write in the books you share at home with your children.

Library

Reception children visit the school library each week to share and borrow books. The children are also invited to review the books they have chosen previously. Library days are as follows. Please ensure the children have their library book in school on that day so they can exchange it for a new one.

Wednesday: Maple and Willow

Thursday: Hazel and Beech

Please feel free to speak to me if there is anything I can help with.

Kind Regards

Mrs Rea, Assistant Headteacher EYFS