



Dear Parents/Guardians,
Firstly, we would like to welcome you and your child to our Reception Class at William Barnes.
We hope this letter will provide some useful information about what we are learning about this term.
Our topic for the first half of this term is 'All About Me'.

Literacy

At school we are using the Oxford Reading Tree series and Book Bugs to take your child through the early stages of learning to read. We are using the Floppy's Phonics Sounds and Letters teaching programme, which is a step-by-step phonics programme, to introduce children to the letters and sounds (the alphabetic code) that are the foundation of all reading and writing.

Each week the children will be learning new sounds. Your child may even teach you the action, so please do practise at home! We will not be learning each letter sound in alphabetical order.

s,a,t,p

i,n,m,d

g,o,c,k

In the next few weeks, a homework book will be sent home each week. It will have sounds in it for supporting your child's learning at home. Children benefit from practising sounds at home, as this reinforces what they have been learning in school. Each week new sounds will be added to the homework book. Please complete learning during the week and return to school in your child's book bag on **Mondays**.

Writing

The children will be encouraged to write their own names on their work and experiment with mark making using a variety of pens, chalk, pencils and even their fingers to develop their fine-motor skills. Any writing your child does at home please bring it in and show us!

Reading

The children will be reading and listening to a wide range of stories, nursery rhymes and poems. Children enjoy sharing books and stories with their parents. If you can talk about the pictures, what is happening in the story and what might happen next, this encourages your child to use pictures to gain understanding and make sense of the story. Please also complete your child's reading journal each time you share a book at home. This is a dark green folder and will be in your child's reading book bag. Inside your child's reading journal, there will be additional information on supporting your child read and other reading activities. Please read with your 5 times a week. On Mondays and Thursdays your child will be given a new reading book.

Bookbags

Please can your child bring in their book bag on Mondays and Thursdays,

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will be making new friends and learning each other's names. They will be learning how to behave in school and in a classroom environment thus learning what acceptable behaviour is. In order to support this learning process we will be using a class rocket with different coloured bands. For good decisions/choices, the children will move up the colours of the rocket.

Achievements at home

Please share with us any moments in which your child achieves something, which you have not seen them do before or that you or your child are proud of! We can then celebrate this in class with the other children, building confidence and self-esteem. Please upload observations or photos on your child's Tapestry Journal.

Mathematics

The children will be learning about numbers 0-10, using numicon shapes and a variety of objects. You can encourage your child to look for numbers everywhere. Ask your child to count how many toys they are playing with. Count together with your child and help them count in the right order. Play lots of number games and games with dice to support your child with subitising recognising quantities without counting such as the dots on a dice.

Some useful questions;

How many? What comes after? What comes before?

What comes next?

Understanding the world

The children will be learning about Autumn and we will be going on a nature walk, when we will be collecting things of interest, looking at the different leaves and collecting them for our display and artwork. If you go for a walk with your child, please take the opportunity to identify the changes you see as the seasons change.

Baby Photograph

The children will be learning about themselves and their family please can you send a photograph of your child when they were a baby. Please put the photograph in your child's book bag on Monday 14th September. You can also email a copy for us to print out on Reception@williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be encouraged to explore and share their thoughts, creativity, ideas and feelings. We will be continuing our rocket. This is displayed in our classroom.

We will also be making self-portraits and the children will choose what materials and colour's they will be using to create these.

The children will be taking part in a National Gallery Project called the Take One Picture.

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/paolo-uccello-the-battle-of-san-romano>

Physical Development

Every morning the children will learn to move and use their imagination using a scheme called Storycise.

The children will be looking at developing our spatial awareness skills, as it is very important to be able to move around safely. We will be playing lots of fun and active games to develop this skill. Outside the children will have many opportunities to develop gross motor skills including the use of bikes, playing with sand, water and soil.

PE bags will stay at school and return home at half terms for washing. They will need their named PE kit, consisting of shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls. It would be helpful if they could change into their kit and back into their school uniform independently! Please practise this at home.

Tapestry- The children will be photographed doing all sorts of learning and experiences and you can access these with your Tapestry login. Login details to follow soon!

Virtual Meet your Teacher- Details to follow. Please join us and learn about the Reception Curriculum.

We are really looking forward to a very busy and exciting learning term. If you have any questions or wish to discuss your child, please do not hesitate to email us.

Reception@williambarnes.sch.uk

With best wishes

The Reception Team



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