

Welcome to Reception!



We have had a wonderful start to our new school year and the Reception team are having such a lovely time! We have enjoyed welcoming back so many families, and meeting those that are new to our school. We can see how much you have done to help your children be ready to start school, and this support is invaluable.



We are very proud of how well the children have settled into the new routines, and how well they have coped with their very busy and longer days. **Well done to them!** It is great to see such confidence and independence (although we are always on hand to help if needed!)

Lovely Lunchtimes

A special **well done** to all our children for their excellent manners and behaviour at lunchtime. They have been busy trying new food, making new friends *and* impressing all the other teachers!



Milk and snack

In each classroom we are lucky enough to have free fruit provided everyday to enjoy and try new flavours, because we all have the right to be healthy. Please ask your child which fruit they tried and what it tasted like. Children under 5 receive free milk. If you would like your child to continue enjoying milk after they turn 5 then please visit our school office for information.

PE Kits

We are very excited to be able to provide all the children with a school PE kit. Thank you to everyone who has brought in their PE shoes as requested. If you are still to bring them in please can we ask for either a **pair of plimsolls or trainers with Velcro fastenings**. **No laces please.**

Thank you!

From the very beginning of our Reception year we will start teaching your child how to read and write. At South Stanley Infants we use a phonic programme called Sounds-Write, which introduces the sounds in a particular order and teaches blending and segmenting skills. We will always talk about **sounds**, and teach the children that the letters we write are ways of 'spelling' these sounds. This consistent approach of talking about 'sound spellings' will help the children later through the school when they begin to see spellings that use two or more letters e.g. sh. Blending to read and segmenting to write are the skills we will emphasise throughout Reception, so we will be teaching the children to 'say the sounds, read the word' and to 'say the sound, write the word'. We will be holding a whole school meeting to explain our new approach, and to show you how to blend and segment, but don't worry - your child will soon be an expert! So that you are kept up to date with what your child is learning and so that they can practise at home, we will send home the sound spelling (letter) that we have taught that day. We will also give each child a word book, filled with words that use the sound spellings taught through the week, so that the children can practise blending to read them—please remind them to 'say the sounds, read the word'. We will send home two reading books every week and ask that the children read these books with you more than once so that after they have read the words by blending, they can develop fluency and understanding, talking about what happened and linking it to their own experiences. Any child who reads every night will reach the top of our reading cloud! We look forward to sharing more information about this with you soon. Thank you for your support in practising all these new skills and please feel free to come and chat to your child's teacher if you would like to know more.



We also focus on a different traditional tale every half term, and this time we are learning about Little Red Riding Hood.

We have put together some ideas of activities you can share with your child to support their learning. We hope you find this useful, but please pop in if you would like any more information.



Communication, Language and Literacy

Share story books.

Talk about the stories and make up new endings.

Write shopping lists together, children can draw your shopping list and add their own 'writing'.

Make and write birthday cards for friends and family.

Physical development

Go for an adventure walk looking for colours/birds/...you decide!

Build a den with boxes and blankets

Play chasing games or 'What's the time Mr Wolf?'

Practise writing the letters as we learn them. Write in sand or glitter on a tray, using paint brushes and water on the path.

Play with play dough, squash, squeeze and roll to develop strength.

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Support children in fastening own coats and shoes.

Remind children to wash their hands after the toilet and before having food.

Talk about how they feel about the new experiences they have at school.

Play turn taking games.

Maths

Count the cutlery/plates at tea time.

Build with cardboard boxes/tubes. Talk about the shapes and who has built the tallest/shortest tower.

Sort the autumn leaves by colour, shape or size.

Count how many steps to get to the bus stop/up the stairs/from the bathroom to your bedroom.

Find shapes in your house, what shape is your window or your plate?

Understanding the world

Look at family photos, old and new. Who is in them? What are they wearing? Do mummy or daddy's clothes look like ours today?

Go for sound walks and talk about what they hear?

Talk about the taste of new foods.

Make a scrap book, all about me and my family. Put in favourite photos and drawings. Add bus tickets from fun trips.

Expressive arts and designs

Sing favourite songs and rhymes.

Make up funny endings for your songs and rhymes.

Make a puppet show to tell a traditional tale or make up your own story. You could make sock puppets or characters using cereal boxes.

Make a collage with leaves, twigs and other things you find in your garden or out and about.

Reception staff who's who!

Class 1 Teacher: Miss Tulloch

Class 2 Teacher: Mrs Bosworth

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Williams and Miss Dinsdale

We are **always** happy to chat and provide any help or support you may need, so please pop in and see us!