

Early Years Newsletter

Autumn 1 ~ 2021

Hello and welcome to Class 1 and Class 2!

For some of our families it is a brand new hello and for others it is a welcome back! We are truly excited to see all the children, and to hear about their wonderful summer adventures.



As you know, we are constantly looking for ways to improve our provision, and we are looking forward to working even more closely as a team to give all our Early Years children the best possible school experience. We will keep you up to date with termly newsletters, and ask that you tell us about what is going on in your little one's life with the 'wow stars'.

If you ever have any questions or would like to know more about life in Early Years, please do ring and ask—we are happy to help you in any way we can.

YOUR EARLY YEARS TEAM

Mrs Fagan and Mrs Johnson—Class 1 teachers
Miss Judd—Class 2 teacher

Mr Patey—teaching assistant, sports coach and forest schools lead
Mrs Wilson—teaching assistant and emotional wellbeing support
Mrs Jackson—Higher level teaching assistant
Miss Soulsby—teaching assistant
Miss Hutchinson—teaching assistant



New Routines

We know that new faces and new routines can take a bit of getting used to so, while all the children have settled in well, we appreciate that these first few days and weeks can be tough for them—and you parents! They will be no doubt get over-excited, tired, and have easy and hard days, but please rest assured that the whole Early Years team are here to help and support you all.

Book bags and homework

All our children are provided with a book bag and reading record, which we ask you to sign and comment in so we can see how your child is progressing at home. We ask that **ALL** Nursery and Reception children bring their book bag to school every **MONDAY**.

Nursery children will choose a picture book to enjoy for the week and teachers will change the Reception children's books after school, giving them one that links to their phonic learning. The children will bring their book bags home again on Tuesday.

We ask that Reception children also bring their book bag to school on **THURSDAY** so that we can keep track of how they are doing and offer any support needed.

They will bring their book bag home the same day.

There is more information in your child's reading record book and on the school website, or you can speak to your class teacher if you would like to know more.

Homework will be sent out for all children on **THURSDAY** and should be returned the following **MONDAY**. Reception children will have a homework book with tasks to complete. Nursery children will have more practical activities to complete with no recording needed. You can let us know how they got on by sending in a 'wow star'.



We have lots of lovely activities planned for this half term.

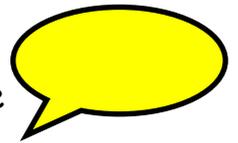
Class 1 will have a special focus on Nursery Rhymes. They will be enjoying **Twinkle twinkle little star**, **Humpty Dumpty**, **Incy Wincey spider**, **Two little dickie birds** and **Hickory Dickory Dock**. Please enjoy singing these rhymes at home too.



Class 2 will have a special focus on 'me and my friends' and will enjoy lots of stories about friends and how they help each other.

All our children will have opportunities to learn through their play, with exciting and interesting games, toys and challenges throughout their day.

Underpinning everything we do will be a strong focus on 'communication and language'—talking to the children about what they are doing, teaching them new words and helping them to use new words when they talk and when explaining their thinking.



How to support your child at home...

Reading and sharing stories

Enjoy story books together—snuggle up in a quiet space to enjoy your books. Try to make sure there are no distractions.

Talk about what the children see in the pictures. Ask...
Who is in the story?
Where is the story happening?
What do you think is going to happen next?

Ask your child to re-tell the story, but please help them to remember if they find it tricky.

*Remember, you can borrow lots of lovely story books from South Moor library.

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Help your child to settle into school by supporting school routines. Even if they seem a little upset when you drop them off, try to be cheery with them. We will make sure they are well looked after, and please feel free to ring school to check that they are ok.

Ask about your child's day and share in the excitement of their new adventure. They probably won't remember much! - but you can use gentle prompts such as 'did you play outside?' or 'did you enjoy some milk or snack today?' to start a little conversation.

Developing resilience

Sometimes our children will find things difficult and that is ok. We want to help them become 'resilient'—to know that making mistakes or being challenged is something that we all face and we can 'bounce back' from this. Help your child by encouraging them when something is hard. For example, if they cannot fit a jigsaw piece into a puzzle but cannot work out what to do, encourage them to think of ways to fix this problem. Let them try their ideas and praise them for 'having a go' even if it doesn't work. Talk to them about their ideas and make other suggestions to try, helping them to solve their problem.



NAMES IN EVERYTHING

Please make sure your child's name is in all their clothes and shoes so that we are able to return any lost property promptly.

Many thanks.

We look forward to a wonderful half term. Please look at our school website for more information or speak to your child's class teacher.

