

Stanbridge Lower School



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Dear Parents or Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child to Reception Class. All the children have settled in very well, now come into school smiling and are able to follow our Covid 19 protocols of extra regular hand washing easily. It has been lovely to watch them enjoy the provision and begin to form new friendships. The children have engaged so well with our first topic, Owls, where we have been outside on the field 'nature hunting', counting the crab apples we found, painting with feathers and baking owl biscuits. Here are just a few bits of information that will help you become more familiar with the Reception daily routine.

Children will all need a pair of wellies to keep at school this is we are able to go outside on the field in all weather. They need a book bag and are expected to bring this to school every day. It is safer for the children to leave toys and the likes at home, as we aren't able to share home resources. Please make sure your child brings a coat or rain mac in during cold and rainy weather.

The children will be given 2/3 books to read at home and these will be changed every Friday, so please ensure your child brings these books to school each Friday where they will be put away and stored until they are safe to be recirculated. Could you please read with your child every night and at least 4 times a week, it doesn't have to be for longer than 10 minutes and could you record when the books have been read and any comments you may wish to add. It is sometimes difficult to think of things to write but you may simply want to let me know if your child enjoyed the book and if they recognised any words/letter sounds. There will be new words added to the reading record each week which your child should learn to read by sight. Children will be rewarded for their home reading by 'moving across the Seasons' one place for each time they have read. It is a great incentive for them as they receive a present when they reach the end of the last season.



"We believe in our children"



Your child will also have a phonics book sent home, with 4 new sounds added each week. Please make sure that your child learns the sound/s, the words containing the sound/s, attempts to write the sounds/s and eventually they should be able to attempt to spell words containing the sound/s. Please help your child to complete this book each week. We have found that it has a great impact on learning to read when completed weekly by children at home. These will be collected each Friday with new sounds sent home on the same day.

In Reception the children will participate in lots of physical activities. Many of these will be through active play rather than in structured PE lessons. These may be inside, but many will be out on the playground, school field or in our outdoor area. All children will need a PE kit consisting of a t-shirt, shorts and trainers and as the weather gets colder you may also want to provide them with a tracksuit top and bottoms. If children do not have suitable kit, they may not be able to join in with certain activities.

We offer a wide and varied curriculum. We have lots of school visitors from theatre companies, dance workshops to the police and fire brigade. We hope that with safety measures put in place that we can continue to enjoy these extra-curricular activities again soon.

This year we will be offering the October Parent Consultations via individual zooms. Here we can discuss how the children have settled in as well as their key areas of learning. If you do need to speak to me before hand, you can either at the Reception gate, over the phone or you may wish to write a letter.

During the last week before October half term, the children are invited to bring in a decorated or unusual pumpkin or scarecrow for our 'Harvest' whole school display outside the school's fence. Some interesting ones will be chosen by Miss Godwin and prizes can be won! Please give a tin or small donation towards our chosen charity. More details to follow.

This year, Reception children will be collaborating with children in Pre-school whilst social distancing outside to put on some Christmas carols and songs around decorated Christmas trees. It will be a very special occasion where parents are invited to watch the performance. There will be more information available about this closer to the time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school. I look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Hughes



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