



Reception Newsletter



The children have made a very positive start to their school life, thank you to all parents and carers for the positive comments received at Parents Evenings. We have already had a fantastic Autumn half-term. We aim to publish a newsletter on a regular basis to keep you up to date with current information. The newsletter will cover all aspects of the curriculum and how it will be taught. This half term the topic has been Me, Me, Me! This will be followed by 'Toys' next half-term.

You may be aware that all classes in the school have names. Class One (Miss Hirst/Mrs Lamb) is Octopus Class, Class Two (Mrs Wolstenholme) is Whales Class. Mrs Donnelly and Miss Tomlinson are the Teaching Assistants for both classes.

**Shotley Bridge
Primary School**

Issue 1

Autumn 2015

REMINDERS

- ☺ The Reception door will be open from 8.50 am -9.00 am.
- ☺ If you arrive at school later than 9.00am please report to the main office to register your child.
- ☺ The school email address is shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net should you have any queries.
- ☺ Please note that the school telephone number is now 01207 260444.
- ☺ Please remember to label your child's clothes and water bottle, ensuring that it only contains water.
- ☺ Please can you ensure that your child has a PE kit in school, named and in a PE bag.

abc Communication, Language and Literacy *abc*

It is important that children develop their fine motor skills in order for them to be able to hold a pencil and form letters correctly. Therefore this term, the literacy activities are specifically designed to both strengthen and develop fine motor skills.

Children will have many opportunities to develop those skills alongside their knowledge and understanding of letters and sounds for example; using spaghetti, shaving foam, large paint brushes and other materials to write letters

and words attempting to form them correctly.

Children will also begin to learn a number of key words by playing games such as corners, pass the parcel and using the computers to support their learning.

We share reading books with the children and encourage them to retell their own story if the book does not have any text. Children will be encouraged to share big books as a group, enjoying stories and poems.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Starting school can be a difficult time, especially for parents and there are usually lots of questions, staff are available to discuss minor queries in the morning. It is important that children feel confident within the classroom and therefore this term developing independence is a key objective. You can help your child settle into school happily and confidently developing their own independence by encouraging them to walk into the classroom from the gate. Please also encourage your child to attempt to use a knife and fork when eating their main meal, dress and undress themselves, fasten their own coat and manage clothing that is 'inside out'. Thank you

Mathematics

123

456

This term we will be concentrating on: counting reliably to ten, recognising, writing and ordering numbers 1-10, and beyond, 2d and 3d shapes and beginning to think about mathematical language such as more and less than.

Children will have many opportunities to apply their knowledge throughout the classroom environment and during focused themed tasks. Number sessions will be undertaken both indoors and out.

Understanding the World



This half term we will be concentrating on senses. We will be using our senses to investigate different materials and thinking about different properties. We have iced biscuits and have made soup and children will be encouraged to talk about their likes and dislikes. We will be baking throughout the year, if your child has any allergies please ensure that the school office is aware of this.

We will be investigating the outdoor area beyond the playground, exploring the long grass, the bushes and observing the wildlife. Please can your child have a pair of named wellington's in school (in a bag) as we go outside no matter what the weather is. Thank you.

Creative Development



This term children will begin to explore musical instruments and the sounds they make. They will also have the opportunity to make their own musical instrument. We will be learning lots of new songs.

Children have already been working creatively in the classroom and are currently enjoying using a wide range of media to make collages, paintings and models.

Autumn is an excellent season to experience colours and the Autumn leaves in the school grounds are usually very colourful. We will spend time this term thinking about and experimenting with colour mixing using a variety of different materials.

We will be looking at work of different artists.



Physical Development



Children will have many opportunities to develop both fine and gross motor skills both indoors and out. We will be focusing on key skills such as catching, rolling and kicking balls. We will also concentrate on children's awareness of space, balancing and travelling actions using parachute games.

As well as our PE sessions children will have regular opportunities for large physical play including the bikes and climbing frame outside.

We operate an 'open door' policy—if you have any queries or concerns, please speak to a member of staff.

