

Reception Autumn 1st Half Term NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to Reception! All of the children are settling so well into Clarendon and are making new friends, learning new routines and having lots of fun! We are very impressed with how well they are doing.

This half term our topic is '**What makes me unique?**' We will be exploring how we change as we grow and how to face new challenges with a positive attitude. We will be learning the rules and routines of our school and will learn how to work together purposefully and happily as a class as well as having lots of fun completing various topic related activities.

Curriculum Highlights

Literacy



This term we will be starting to teach Phase 2 in phonics (most of the single letter sounds), alongside Phase 1 as the children still need to develop their listening skills. We teach them how to recognise and blend the letter sounds for reading, and how to segment them and form the letters for writing.

We also teach the children technical words like phoneme, (the letter sound) and grapheme, (the written letter sound).

Click on link below is to the Alphabet chant that we sing daily during our phonics.

[Alphabet chant](#)

We will also be providing many fine motor activities, such as tweezers, threading and painting just to name a few so that fingers can gain control and strength for when we beginning practising of our writing our letters correctly.

Communication and Language

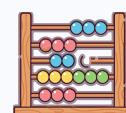
This term we will be learning how to listen carefully and understand why it is important to do so.

The children will be developing the skills needed to ask and answer "how" and "why" questions and confidently share their ideas during small group discussions.

The children will also be taught new vocabulary throughout the day.



Numeracy



This term we will be learning about numbers 1-3 and having a deeper understanding of these numbers through subitising.

We will also be learning about numerical patterns, verbally being able to say which group has more or less.

Understanding of the world



This term we will be learning all about ourselves and how we have changed. We will be learning about some similarities and differences between things in the past and now.

Expressive Art and Design



This term we will using many different materials, such as paper, paint, fabric, or recycled items to create things and they will be exploring and learning about different textures (for example, smooth, rough, soft, bumpy, or shiny).

Personal, social and Emotional:

This term we will be learning to follow simple instructions, new routines, building relationships. We will also be learning about different feelings and how to understand and care about the feelings of others.



Curriculum Highlights

Physical Development



This term we will be learning how to move in a range of ways, safely negotiating space, adjusting speed and direction to avoid obstacles.

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit and are dressed appropriately for the weather. We use the hall as well as the outside areas for PE and the children will be wearing their kit all day so they need to be warm/cool enough.

We will also be developing our gross motor and fine motor skills using one-handed tools and equipment. By building these muscles in their arms and fingers this will support the children to hold a pencil between the thumb and first two fingers, and develop good and comfortable pencil control.

Computing



Every Friday the children will visit the computer room, where they will learn how to use computers with confidence, through fun, age-appropriate activities.

Reading



Book bags should be brought to school every day with their reading buddies.

A reading book will be sent home every **Monday**. They will start with books with no words, sharing wordless books supports language development by encouraging children to learn new vocabulary, describe what they can see, predict what might happen next, and talk about characters.

You can enjoy creating stories together, making reading an interactive and engaging experience. Every **Friday** the children will come home with a Library book they have chosen. This book is for you to read and enjoy together.

Please sign the reading record at least 3 times a week for your child to be entered into the reading raffle.

Home learning

Home learning will start in Reception after Half-term, this will be sent home every **Friday** and needs to be returned every **Wednesday**. We understand that family life can be busy, so please do not feel under pressure to complete every activity. However, we would really appreciate daily reading, as this helps to develop your child's phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension skills, providing a strong foundation for future reading and writing.

General information

Every Friday you will be sent an email with a photo link for you to access and see what your child have been doing at school that week. This is a fun way to discuss with your child what they have been learning. A consent form has been sent out. We ask that you complete the form. Without consent we will be unable to send the link to you. We also ask that no photos are shared on social media they are just for Reception parents.

In the Reception Class children enjoy a snack of fruit and milk, or water. If you would like your child to receive milk, you need to register for this. Please see the office for details. As part of the Healthy Schools Initiative, we are provided with a piece of fruit for each child every day.