Welcome to Reception

Hello. Welcome to Reception! This year your child's teacher will be Mrs Biancu. This year's reception class will be Mrs Biancu's 20th class! I have spent most of my time teaching Early Years but have also enjoyed teaching older children. I love reading and dancing and bring movement into as much of our learning as possible. Miss Sim will be helping in Reception all day, every day. Miss Sim loves football and supports Ipswich Town, going to watch all home games.

We are both very excited to be starting a new school year with you.

Days to remember

Our PE day is **Tuesday starting 22nd September**. Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit (School sweatshirt, white t-shirt, black or navy shorts, skorts, joggers or leggings and trainers). Please ensure it is weather appropriate as we may go outside for PE but also as the children will have access to our learning garden all day.

Our 'Outdoor Learning' day is **Friday**. Please send your child in weather-appropriate clothing and footwear. If you would like to send wellington boots to stay in school please do so if that is easier for you (these can the also be used by your child in the learning garden). Please note our Forest School sessions will not start until later this half term but children are still invited into school in their outdoor clothes. Further information will be sent out.

Communication

We will use Class Dojo, where I will share important whole class messages and/or individual private messages. Please continue to contact the school office for admin messages such as school absence or if someone different is collecting your child from school.

We are always happy to talk at drop off and pick up time or we can schedule a longer meeting.

Every Wednesday we will have a 'drop in' session between 3:30 and 3:50pm where you will be able to pop into the classroom to look at your child's work and/or speak with us if you wish.

Curriculum

Every term a curriculum letter will be sent out to let you know what we are learning and how you could help your child at home.

This will also be available for reference on our year group page on the school's website.

Baseline

It is now statutory for children to complete an on-entry baseline assessment within their first 6 weeks of Reception.

This is a few questions which will establish their knowledge within maths and literacy. It is completed with the class teacher and is spread so the children are not answering all questions at once.

Further information will be sent out in due course.

Reading

Changing book day will be on a Thursday, beginning 17th September, when your child will discuss their book and then change it. Initially your child will bring home a 'Bedtime story' which is for you to read to them. As the term progresses and their phonic knowledge builds, they will then have a book to read to you.

Do remember it is really valuable to re-read books to build fluency and confidence, particularly to reinforce high frequency words and phonics sounds. Play games with the story and words, ideas will often be found on the front or back page.

It would be fantastic if parents/carers, grandparents or siblings could write in the reading diary when they read at home. If you have time, write a comment and initial it.

We cannot stress enough how important it is that your child reads (where possible) daily. As a school we have an expectation that the children read at least 4 times a week. Should they do this they will receive a ticket each week and at the end of the month we will pick a ticket to win a book from Mr Wilson. It really does make such a difference to all areas of their development.

Medication / Injuries

Please keep us up to date with any medication, injuries or difficulties your child is having. If your child has an inhaler or an Epipen/Jext pen, please ensure that we have one that remains in school and in date along with their Care Plan.

Due to allergies, we are a nut free school. Please make sure your child does not bring any nuts or related products into school.

If your child receives an injury and cannot do PE, please do let us know.

Other information

Could all clothing and water bottles please be labelled. Please can we only have bookbags in school, we do not have the space for backpacks and there is nothing your child needs to bring that will not fit in their bookbag. This was discussed during our initial meeting.

The classroom door will open at 8:40am. The children will come in, put away their belongings and start an independent activity. At 8:50am we will do the register and the gates will be locked. If you are running late then please bring your child to the main office and they will be escorted around to the classroom.

The children will be offered daily fruit or vegetable during snack time, which is closely monitored to ensure safety. This time is also used to hear stories, songs and rhymes.

We will have a super reception year!

Mrs Biancu