



Early Years Foundation Stage Nursery and Reception Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2024 - 2025

I would like to begin by extending a warm welcome back to all of our Early Years children and families, I hope you have enjoyed the summer break. We are delighted to welcome a number of new families joining our Nursery and Reception classes this term and I know you will support us in making them feel part of our Twyford school community.

Staffing

We've had a few questions about the different roles of adults in our Early Years classroom, so I would like to start by reintroducing everyone.

Mrs Butcher	Reception Teacher	Thursday and Friday
Mrs Oakes	Reception Teacher	Monday to Wednesday (Teaching Assistant Thursday and Friday)
Mrs Carter	Nursery Teacher	Monday to Friday
Mrs Lee	Teaching Assistant	Monday to Wednesday

Curriculum

This term we will focus on settling the children into their new classes and working to embed new routines and develop skills of independence. We'll be using a range of texts to explore what makes us special as well as exploring feelings and emotions. We will also be keeping a watchful eye on the changing seasons and hope to have lots of Autumnal fun.

Phonics

Daily phonics sessions will begin for all Reception pupils using our school phonics programme 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. This term we will introduce the initial phase 2 letter sounds and begin to develop skills of blending to read simple CVC words, for example c-a-t 'cat'. I will send home a weekly phonics sheet which will provide you with information about the sounds and words we have been learning that week. Practising these sounds/words with your children at home really helps them to progress and is an opportunity for them to show off what they can do.

Maths

Nursery children will begin to develop their early counting and number skills through their play and exploration of the activities in our indoor and outdoor provision. Learning and singing number rhymes will continue throughout the day, in addition to the activities and resources available through our continuous provision.

Reception children will begin to have a daily focused maths session. These sessions follow the White Rose Maths programme of learning in line with the Maths teaching throughout the rest of the school. During this term we begin to develop counting skills and explore numbers 0-5.

Reception Reading

As the Reception pupils begin to learn the phase 2 letter sounds, they will be given their first reading book this half term. At Twyford School reading is so very important to us and we urge you to support your child's reading skills by sharing their reading book with them every day. Please record each read in their reading record. Just 5 minutes together will make a huge difference to giving your child the best possible start to

their learning. Each day that a child reads at home will be recorded on a bookmark in school and awards will be given throughout the year to those pupils who achieve 50, 100, 150 and 250 reads at home!

Rhyme Time

Both Nursery and Reception will continue with our weekly rhyme time. This proved hugely popular with the children last year and we are looking forward to introducing a new set of rhymes to learn and perform throughout the year. Each class will learn five new rhymes during this half term. Keep an eye out on Tapestry to see which rhyme we are learning each week!

Lending Library

The introduction of the class lending libraries last year were a great success and Mrs Carter and I are pleased to reintroduce these in Nursery and Reception this term. Children have the option to choose a book from our lending library to share and enjoy with you at home. When they are ready, they can return the book and choose another. We hope you enjoy some of our favourite stories as much as we do in school!

Physical Development

We shall be taking full advantage of our spacious outdoor area to support the development of key physical skills. Please make sure your child has suitable clothing for spending time outdoors (a coat and then a hat and gloves for when the weather turns cooler).

PE

Reception children will begin weekly PE sessions with Mr Dalmedo, from Nxt Level Coaching. During this half term we will work with the children to independently change socks and shoes in preparation for their PE session. Please ensure a full PE kit is in school for this half term. Our PE days will remain flexible through the week so we will keep kits in school for the term unless they are in need of washing. For a full list of PE uniform please see the school website and ensure all items are clearly labelled in a named bag.

Magic Moments

We get to see the amazing things your child does at school each day but it is always lovely to have the opportunity to celebrate the great moments you have with your child at home too. Magic Moments are those special things that make you proud; it could be as simple as putting shoes on independently or moving up to the next class in swimming lessons. We will send a blank Magic Moment certificate home with your child this term and look forward to receiving this back with your child's latest 'magical moment' to share and celebrate with their class.

Enrichment

This term we will explore our school environment and local area, looking for signs of Autumn. We are also looking forward to our first visit to St Mary's Church this year for our annual Harvest Festival. Further details will be sent in due course.

Toddler and Baby Group

Our toddler and baby group is back for another year and we are looking forward to welcoming both new and existing families into school each Friday morning. Please do pop on down with your younger ones and spread the word to families and friends. The group will continue to be held every Friday morning from 9:45am – 11:00am in the school hall. No booking required, just turn up, relax with a cup of tea and enjoy!

Hopefully this newsletter has given you a brief snapshot into the exciting term ahead. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to pop in and see myself, Mrs Carter or Mrs Oakes.

Mrs S Butcher
Reception Teacher