

Welcome to Reception. We hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and that your children are ready to start their exciting adventures at Red Oaks.

### Morning Routine

The children have settled into the morning routine very well. Our aim for this term is for the children to become more independent and to manage their own personal belongings. In order to help us with this, please encourage your child to put their own belongings in the correct place. We also encourage children to find their own name for self-registration.

### Planning

In Reception we plan to ensure 'topics' are focused on subjects the children are interested in. We plan based on wherever the children want to go. For example, last year we began to look at superheroes and we thought naturally the next stage would be to look at local heroes. However, the children, after looking at the book 'Super Worm', became hugely interested in mini-beasts and therefore our planning and activities took a different pathway to ensure we allowed the children to 'lead' their own learning. We plan around the theme to ensure children are working on objectives they need to meet. We still have a story focus each term that we learn to re-tell as a class to promote story language, book talk and writing. We try our best to intertwine the story and make links with the current theme, although this may not always be possible.

### What are we learning this term?

The texts that we will be looking at this term are The 3 Little Pigs and The Gingerbread Man. We have lots of exciting opportunities planned for your children to become independent learners and story tellers. Throughout the term, your child will have the opportunity to make up their own stories, develop their story knowledge and join in with lots of creative and fun independent activities.

### Clothing/PE Kit/Wellies

A gentle reminder to say that it is still very important to ensure that **all** uniform, PE Kits and wellies are clearly named. In Reception, we do a lot of work both inside and outside, so please remember to send your child in with an appropriate coat and/or hat depending on the weather. The children in Reception learn through play and exploration, therefore messy play is an important aspect of their development. We encourage the children to do this independently, using an apron but sometimes the children forget and their clothes will get dirty. This is all part of the fun, so apologies for any messy clothes.

### Reading and Home School Contact books

Soon your child will be coming home with a reading book. We encourage you to read with your child at least 4 times a week and to record this in their home-school contact book. We will listen to your child read once a week at school and will change their book on their designated day. We will also send out phoneme cards, for you to help your children to learn their phonic sounds and actions, as well as word cards to practise their reading skills.

### Welly Walks

We will be taking part in regular Welly Walks this term. We have a Forest Schools area located at the bottom of the school field where many sessions take place. Lessons are fun, very interactive and help children to understand that learning can take place anywhere, not just in the classroom.

### Visits Outside School

Every Friday, 6 children will be chosen to accompany us on a trip to the shop (Tesco) to choose our 'social snack'. Please can you ensure you have signed the consent form from the welcome

pack, giving permission for your child to be taken off school premises so they don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity.

### E-mail

[reception@redoaks.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:reception@redoaks.swindon.sch.uk)

We have an e-mail address to help us gather more evidence of children's learning from you at home. We would love for you to send photos, videos etc. of the lovely things you have been doing at home. However, we may also text out a focus e.g. ICT in the home, helping with microwaves, dishwashers etc and that week we would love evidence from you of your child completing the focus activity. This email address must not be used for questions or a means of talking to your class teacher. Please still do this by talking to us in person or by sending those emails to [admin@redoaks.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@redoaks.swindon.sch.uk). Unfortunately, if this system is abused we will be forced to close it down. We look forward to sharing these emails with your child and their friends in class.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Many thanks,

The Reception Team ☺