

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Red Oaks Primary School to all our new families and welcome back to those of you who attended Red Oaks Nursery. It has been lovely to watch the children exploring our Reception Area as they begin to settle in and get to know staff and make new relationships.

**Daily Routine-** At the beginning of each morning and afternoon; the children spend a short settling in time in their Registration classes and this includes time to play independently in the morning and a group or class activity. We encourage all our children to be independent and to approach any challenge with an 'I can' attitude. For the rest of the day the children will be encouraged to free flow around the 2 classrooms and the outdoor area. During the morning they will have a group snack time when they are encouraged to drink their water or milk (if you have ordered it from 'Cool Milk'). Staff will spend time observing and getting to know the children, assessing their needs and then working with the children to address their needs and develop their learning. Each day the children will be involved in group, individual and class activities.

**Homework and Reading-** In a few weeks the children will bring a book home to share with you. We encourage you to read with your child at least 4 times a week and to record this in their home school contact book. The child's reading book will be changed once a week on a designated day and staff will read the book once a week with your child, but there will be lots of daily reading opportunities at school for your child to enjoy. We will also send home phoneme and word cards for your child to practise with you when we feel this is appropriate.

**Themes for the Autumn Term-** All the Reception staff are looking forward to sharing an exciting term with themes that are guided by their interests and needs; so we look forward to exploring lots of varied themes through stories, role play, talking and first hand experiences. A friendly alien arrival will start off the term and provide the children with opportunities to decide upon rules to make their time at Red Oaks a happy one. They will be encouraged to help the alien by letting him know about school and how we live on planet Earth. The children will learn to tell the stories 'Not Now Bernard' and 'Peace at last' and traditional tales such as the Little Red Hen and The Enormous Turnip. Once the children are settled in to their new setting Mrs Wright will be taking the children on a Welly Walk every other week on a Wednesday afternoon using a 'Forest Schools' ethos to learning. They will need to keep a pair of named wellies at school and we will provide them with a waterproof jacket and dungarees. The welly walks are a great way to learn about how to keep safe in the natural environment while they observe the world around them and changes that are happening over time. Welly walks will take place every week whatever the weather unless the weather conditions are considered a danger.

**Clothing-** The children look wonderful in their new uniforms. Thank you for labelling everything as this really helps us to identify belongings. Please send in your child's wellies as soon as possible. This term we will be having fun indoors and outdoors, so please remember to send your child with a named coat and hat suitable for the weather conditions. The children will need to have their PE kit in school every day.

#### **Dates to Remember-**

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 1pm- Reception Welcome Meeting

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> or Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September- Sign up to 'Meet the Teacher' if you would like to talk to your child's teacher about any changes or updates since Home Visits or last term.

17<sup>th</sup> September- Children are in full time this week.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October- Parent's Evening

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October- Break Up for Holiday

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November- Start of Term 2

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas Performance



Please remember that we have an open door policy and if you have any concerns do not hesitate to speak to us.

Many Thanks

Mrs Talmage, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Wright