



## Reception termly information sheet

### **Welcome to the Autumn Term**

We hope you find the following information useful.

In Reception we will be starting P.E. after the October half term. We will let you know nearer the time when the children will need to bring in their P.E. kits. In the meantime they will be given plenty of opportunity for physical play in the Reception Outdoor area and in the main playground during their lunch play.

On Wednesday morning Apple class will be taught by Mrs O'Sullivan and Lime class will be taught by Mrs Humbles. On Tuesdays the children will have a music lesson taught by Mrs Dore.

In Reception, all children will take home a 'lilac' level reading book to begin. Books will be sent home within the next couple of weeks. These books do not have any words in; however, they allow children to focus on using the pictures to tell the story and develop their story telling and language skills. For example rather than 'the girl is walking', 'there was once a girl who was walking through the park with her friend'. Through questioning children will develop this language. We will then move children onto their next level once they have been taught the necessary phonics skills to be able to decode the words.

Once you have read the book with your child, please write a comment into their yellow reading record. We will check each record every day and anyone with a comment will be able to change his or her book that day. We will not change the book unless you have made a comment.

In the front of your reading records, you will find your child's google classroom log in details. This is will be needed in the case of a full school closure or if your child needs to self-isolate.

Please refer to the video on our blog to find out how we teach phonics. Below is a link to access our class blog.

<https://albancityschool.org.uk/class-pages/reception-apple-and-lime/>

Please do not hesitate to speak to us at any time before and after school. We are looking forward to working with your child this term.

Best wishes,

The Reception Team

As discussed during our zoom call before summer, we teach the children through play, using play as a vehicle for their learning.

Our priority for the first term is settling the children in, helping the children to understand the routines and boundaries of being in a new school. This is also referred to as the prime areas of learning. These areas are Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. The children must be secure within each of the prime areas before they can begin to consolidate new learning within the specific areas, which are; Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

#### **Communication and Language:**

- Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.
- Focusing attention for extended periods.
- Extending vocabulary.
- Is able to follow instructions.
- Listens and responds to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.

#### **Physical Development:**

- Moves freely and with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping.
- Runs skilfully and negotiates space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles.
- Draws lines and circles using gross motor movements.
- Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors.
- Holds pencil near point between first two fingers, thumb, and uses it with good control.
- Can copy some letters, e.g. letters from their name.
- Manage own needs such as toileting.

#### **Personal, Emotional and Social Development:**

- Can play in a group, extending and elaborating play ideas, e.g. building up a role-play activity with other children.
- Initiates play, offering cues to peers to join them.
- Keeps play going by responding to what others are saying or doing.
- Demonstrates friendly behaviour, initiating conversations and forming good relationships with peers and familiar adults
- Shows confidence in asking adults for help.
- Aware of own feelings, and knows that some actions and words can hurt others' feelings.
- Begins to accept the needs of others and can take turns and share resources, sometimes with support from others.

Within the specific areas, children will be introduced to phase 2 phonics sounds. We will also be exploring counting, numbers and matching quantities.