



# Reception Class Newsletter

*Welcome to a new school year at Weare Academy Church of England First School and a particular warm welcome to those of you who are new to the school.*

We hope this newsletter finds you well and ready for the start of a new school year. On behalf of the Bumblebee Class Team, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all the children joining us this term. We are excited to get to know your children over the next few weeks and embark on a wonderful learning journey together.

## All About Me

This term, our topic is "All About Me". We can't wait to hear all about your children's summer adventures. Please ensure that your child brings their summer holiday bucket list booklet to school so we can share and celebrate their experiences with the class.

We will be discussing families throughout the term. If you have a particular family situation or difficulty that you would like to share, it will help us support your child in the best possible way.

## Home-school communication

To ensure effective communication and seamless collaboration, we kindly request that you activate your **Tapestry** and **Class Dojo** apps. These platforms will allow us to keep you informed about your child's progress, share updates, and provide important information.

## Tapestry

We are using Tapestry, our online learning journal to record children's WOW moments this year. We love to see any learning or news that your child does at home. Please upload these onto Tapestry and we will share these during our Snack and Natter time. We also reward children with Dojo points for sharing any home learning/news on Tapestry. If you have not received your Tapestry activation email please see Mrs Munday.

Additionally, we highly recommend downloading **the School App** for access to school-wide announcements and reminders.

## Curriculum Day

Every Thursday, we will be having Curriculum Day, where our children will enjoy French, Music, PE, and Forest School sessions. It is important that your child comes to school prepared with their PE kit and Forest School kit by Thursday. We kindly request that you place your child's wellies on the wooden welly rack located in the Reception outdoor area. This will ensure that they are readily available for our Forest School activities.

## Classroom Pet

We are excited to introduce our classroom pet, Boris the hamster, to the children. Boris will be joining us next week once we have confirmed that

none of the children in our class have any allergies to hamsters. Please let us know immediately if your child has any allergies so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

### **Classroom Volunteers**

We pride ourselves on creating a collaborative classroom environment and welcome the involvement of parents and grandparents in our class. If you would like to come into the classroom and support by listening to children read on a regular basis, please approach Mrs. Warren in the office for more information. We greatly appreciate any volunteers who can spare their time and contribute to our children's learning experience.

### **Dropping off and collecting your child**

Children should be dropped off and collected at the fire exit door of the Reception Classroom. Please make a line to the fire exit door so that each child can be released one-by-one to the correct adult. If the weather is poor, you are welcome to wait underneath the Reception Class outdoor play area. If you have arranged for someone else to collect your child, please let the office know who will inform the classroom team. Please do not use Class Dojo in this instance, just in case the teacher has not checked the system.

During the first few weeks, we appreciate that your child may be nervous and you may need to accompany them into the classroom. We will support you with this process and we hope that your child will soon learn to be confident to enter the classroom independently.

The car-park can become quite congested at peak times. When your children are ready, we would encourage them to use the 'stop and drop' service (see main school newsletter for more information). Plus, the children get a special sticker from Miss Rossi!

### **Phonics and Home-School reading books**

We use the Jolly Phonics programme to introduce your child to the sounds of the letters of the alphabet.

We will begin teaching the letter sounds from the first day of school. Along with assessments across the EYFS Curriculum, we will assess your child's blending and segmenting skills, and letter sound recognition. Once your child is confident with these skills, we will send home a home school reading book and reading record.

### **Questions or just a catch-up!**

You are welcome to speak to any of the Reception Class team about day-to-day matters and if you would like to speak about your child on more in-depth issues, please do feel free to request an appointment or telephone consultation. We are usually available at the end of the day, which is when we are able to give you more time.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to working together to create a nurturing environment where your child can grow, learn, and thrive. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### **The Reception Class team**

Mrs Kathryn Munday (Class Teacher Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)

Miss Sara Packer (Class Teacher Thursday, Friday)

Mrs Tina Chapman (Teaching Assistant)

Ms. Ange Rossi (Teaching Assistant)

Miss Sarah Green (Teaching Assistant/ HLTA)