



## Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents

This week in Reception we introduced our topic for the remainder of this term. We will be exploring 'Journeys' and we started the theme by listening to June Crebbin's story 'The Train Ride'. The children shared ideas about their own journeys to school and each drew and labelled pictures depicting what they see on their way to school.

In our phonics lessons we have revised the phonemes 'm' 'a' 's' 't' and introduced (or revised) phonemes 'i' and 'd'. We have enjoyed playing a variety of games to blend the sounds together to read words. The children have also explored activities to develop their fine and gross motor skills which will help with their writing as we develop skills over the coming weeks. This weekend you may like to play 'I spy' games with your child, focusing on things beginning with, or ending in, 'm', 'a', 's', 't', 'd' or 'i'.

Our maths focus has been exploring 2D shapes. We were amazed by the number of squares, rectangles, triangles and circles we found in and around our school. The children have made a 2D shape vehicle and have discussed properties of the basic shapes. Perhaps you will discover more interesting and unusually placed shapes in your own environment over the weekend.

In our games lesson, the children rotated around a carousel of activities including hockey skills, parachute games, riding on bikes and yoga. In PE, the children enjoyed making shapes with their bodies.

In assembly this week, Mrs Harries talked children through our lunchtime routines and the children were keen to contribute their ideas about their favourite vegetables and to help with table setting. Bird Family meetings had a theme of thinking about our playground rules, in order to ensure that everyone has a happy and safe playtime.

We have been impressed by the independence the children already have when changing into their PE kit. Please ensure every item of your child's kit is clearly named and has a coloured loop to aid identification. We faced lots of challenges last week trying to match children to unnamed shorts, socks, dresses, and shirts. As the weather becomes more autumnal, all children will need to have a school fleece and jogging bottoms in School; it essential that these are also named and looped. We thank you for your support.

**Dates for your Diary:**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 5.00pm onwards:** ‘settling in’ parents’ evening. Parents are able to book an appointment slot – please see full booking instructions below

**Online booking system:** Log into the Parents’ Area of the School's website using the username: **parents** and the password: **children**. Click on ‘Pre Prep Area’ (in the right hand column) followed by the link ‘Pre Prep Parents’ Evening’ (in the right hand column). Enter your child's name in the box and press 'submit'. You will see a list of times – please click on one of the ‘Book’ buttons.

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October:** ‘Wear something purple day’ in aid of our charity, Nelson’s Journey (Please bring in a £1 donation).

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – 8.30am-10.00am:** Grandparents’ coffee morning in the Pre Prep hall and visit to the classrooms.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October:** Break up for half term

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** Start of second half of term

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – 8.30am-10.00am:** Reception coffee morning in the Pre Prep hall followed by the Reception Christmas production in the Read Hall

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Mrs Alexandre, Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing, Mrs Brown and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*