

Dear Parent

### **Autumn Term Curriculum Letter**

Welcome to our wonderful school and especially to Acorns Class.

The first few weeks of this half term will be focused on ensuring your child is settled and happy at school. Using the assessments from pre-school as a starting point, we will assess every child to form a baseline for their progress. What this means is that we will be listening to them and watching them very closely, observing their play, their interaction with other children and adults, their ability to cope in new situations, what fascinates them and what puzzles them, how well they persevere and many, many other characteristics that your child has already developed.

By investing this time at the beginning of the year your child will have a great start at school and we will be much better equipped to help them reach their potential. As we work our way through the autumn term we will begin to introduce dedicated phonics and maths sessions and provide enhancements and provocations to engage and excite your child. I don't know what these will be ... it depends on their interests!

In this foundation year child learns best through play. It's our job to make sure our teaching and the environment we're in gives your child every opportunity to be engaged in a way that they enjoy. To give you an idea of our week I've listed the basic provision below:

- **Morning jobs**
- **Hello Acorns!** Let's see who is in class and think about our day ahead
- **Lovely Learning.** The inside/outside classroom will be set up at different points in the day to provide a range of provocations for children to explore. The adults will support and observe so we can make sure everyone is challenged and engaged. We will build up to having dedicated teacher-led activities when the children are ready.
- **Read Write Inc (RWInc).** We will systematically follow this reading programme. I will have a separate reading meeting later this term to tell you more about how it works and how you can support your child on their reading journey.
- **Maths.** There will be a short daily teacher-led input for maths to teach core skills. This will be complemented by a maths-rich environment for children to explore as part of their play.

- **Music and PE** will be taught in discrete sessions by specialist teachers as well as being part of the ongoing provision for children.
- **Outdoor Adventures.** From week 3 every Wednesday afternoon will be an outdoor adventure for Acorns. There's no such thing as bad weather - only bad clothing! I will send a separate note with details.
- **Assembly.** At the end of every day we will come together to talk about our day, think about what we'd like to do tomorrow and share a book. As we go through the term, and when the children are ready, we will start to bring them to the whole school assembly and Friday morning celebration assembly.

As you know, we will be using an online learning journey programme called Tapestry. We are working hard to enter all the initial information now the children have arrived in school. Over the next couple of weeks you should receive an email giving you your unique access to your child's learning journey. If you have any issues or worries about the system please let me know.

Mrs Whitehead and I are very much looking forward to getting to know you and your child and we would like to invite you to a **Meet the Teacher** event at school on Thursday 17 September, 9am-9.30am. Look out for details in the school newsletter.

In the meantime, please enjoy your child's Reception year at school. Our classroom is open to you every morning and we would encourage you to come in and let your child impress you with their independence. You will see me every morning and afternoon but if you want to have a more in-depth or private chat I'm available after school.

With best wishes

Mrs Rice  
Acorns Teacher

Mrs Whitehead  
Acorns Teaching Assistant