

Reading



Reception children will begin *daily Read Write Inc* phonics sessions this term. We will be concentrating on building a foundation of phonic knowledge so that the children can begin to recognise sounds and start blending them to read simple words. After half term, we will be sending home a book for you to share with your child each week, together with a leaflet with tips on how to support your child's early reading skills. Books will be changed once a week and need to be kept in the clear plastic Ziploc wallet that we give your child, together with their reading record. You will need to bring your child's book and reading record in on a **Monday** and we will send them home again on a **Wednesday**. If the books or the reading record are missing, we will be unable to change their books. Thank you for your understanding. Due to the current situation, each year group bubble has been given a week to use the School Library.

Children will be able to bring home 2 books from the Library during our designated week. We are timetabled to be using the Library during week commencing November 2nd 2020. These books will need to be returned to school in the clear zip lock bag provided within 2 weeks of them being borrowed.

Please try to read with your child **every day**. Reading to your child helps extend their vocabulary, feeds their imagination, broadens their knowledge and is fun! **Your child will make more progress when you read with them at home.**

Supporting EYFS

In EYFS, we invite parents to make a **£10 donation** each term. This helps cover the cost of providing snacks and resources for the children.

We also welcome contributions for junk modelling (egg cartons, cardboard boxes, bottles, etc) and role-play (fabrics, old clothes, old technology).

We also need a regular supply of resources for our mud kitchen and woodwork area such as: avocado stones, pine cones, conkers, corks, bottle and jar lids, flowers that are past their best, off cuts of wood, buttons, beads.

We would also welcome donations of clothes, underwear and socks in case of emergencies.

Please bring any donations in a carrier bag clearly labelled with the date. We will then place them into quarantine before using them in class.

Autumn Parent Workshops:



The following workshops will be available for you on Class Dojo in the near future. We will let you know when they are available.

Reading • Phonics • Maths

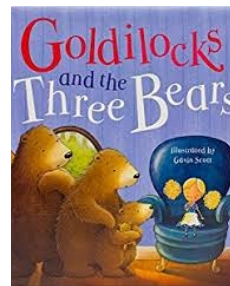
If you have any questions please contact us via email in the first instance, or send us a message on Class Dojo:

Otters: joanne.moss@georgetomlinson.waltham.sch.uk
Pine Martens: tina.kent@georgetomlinson.waltham.sch.uk
Hedgehogs: hannah.huff@georgetomlinson.waltham.sch.uk



Reception
Newsletter
Autumn
2020

New Beginnings



This term Reception will be getting to know each other and our environment. We will be focusing on well-being and encouraging the children to talk about their feelings. We have some lovely books and resources to support this such as 'The Colour Monster'. We will be reading lots of stories and information books, with a focus on traditional tales. We will also begin 'helicopter stories'. These are stories that the children create themselves, which are then acted out in class at the end of each day. We will be starting our Read Write Inc phonics programme to help us with our reading and writing. We will also have a short daily maths session with an emphasis on counting, number recognition and basic shapes. We will be learning about how we can improve our environment and recycling our waste. We will be focusing on hygiene and how we can stay safe and healthy with regular sanitising and hand washing.

The Reception Team:

Head of EYFS: Jessica Mendelsohn
Otters: Jo Moss (Head of Year), Candace Rimmer & Seraphina Simmons-Bah
Pine Martens: Tina Kent, Sarah Manwaring & Mark Wood (Mon)
Hedgehogs: Hannah Huff & Balvinder Panesar

Important Dates

October:

Black History Month

Half-term Break:

26th—30th October

Last day of term:

Friday 18th December—early finish at 1.30pm

Christmas holiday:

21st December 2020—1st January 2021

INSET day

4th January

INSET day

5th January

Spring Term starts:

Wednesday 6th January 2021

Children's Clothing

Uniforms and book bags

Please ensure that your child wears their full school uniform each day. Please label your child's clothing with name labels or permanent marker.

We are currently trying to reduce the amount of items going between home and school, therefore the children do not currently need to bring a school bag every day.

We will be sending any work they have done home on a Friday, so you may want to bring a bag when you collect them on that day.

PE

The children will have a PE lesson every **Tuesday** with our dedicated sports coaches, Jake and Kiyle. Please make sure your child wears their named PE kit (white t-shirt, navy shorts or navy tracksuit bottoms) to school every Tuesday.

You may wish to bring your child's plimsolls in a separate bag to be kept in school, so that they can change their shoes ready for PE. If so, please ensure that both shoes are labelled with their name.

Well being

Children sometimes require a change of clothes at school, including pants and socks. Please ensure that your child has a spare set of clothes to change into in the event of an accident. Please ensure these clothes are named. We will keep this bag in school.

Wellies

We will be going to the field every **Tuesday** afternoon. You are welcome to bring in a pair of wellies clearly labelled with your child's name if you wish. These will be kept in school.

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is an online platform that we began to use during lockdown. We are only able to access it at the start and end of each day as we do not use it when we are teaching.

If you have any urgent messages for your child's Teacher, please telephone the school office on **020 8539 3577** and ask them to pass a message on to us.

Projects

One of the school's key priorities for this year is the environment and the importance of healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle.

Composting

In Reception we will be composting our fruit and vegetable peel and will be learning how this will help us in the garden.

Wormery

We will be learning about making soil by using our wormery in the Reception garden, as well as making our own individual wormeries.

Well-being

We will be learning to talk about and manage our feelings through the use of stories. We will be linking our emotions to colours and will have coloured jars for the children to access as well as a quiet, comfortable 'feelings corner' in each classroom.

Planning in the Moment

At George Tomlinson we use 'In the Moment Planning'. This involves a cycle of observing the children in their play, assessing their needs and planning how to develop their learning in that moment. Each week, 3 members of each class (approximately 10%) will be focus children.

Some of the interactions and activities that occur are recorded when the cycle is complete. These records are on the learning journeys of the focus children and on "In the moment" planning sheets for activities in which a group becomes involved.

We work this way because young children are experiencing and learning in the here and now, not storing up their questions until tomorrow or next week. It is in that moment of curiosity, puzzlement, effort or interest—the "teachable moment" - that the skillful adult makes a difference.

By using this cycle on a moment-to-moment basis, the adult will always be alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child's thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children's well-being and learning (planning for the next moment).

When your child is a focus child you will receive notification the week before. We will give you a sheet to complete and ask you to take some photos over the weekend to be emailed to the Class Teacher.

The week after your child has been a focus child, the Class Teacher will meet with you to discuss your child's learning. This will replace the traditional parents' evening.