

Welcome to Reception

We are The Butterflies Class

The Early Years Team:

Mrs Matthews (teacher, works Monday-Wednesday); Mrs Manderville (teacher, works Thursday-Friday); Mrs Rockliff (teaching assistant, works Monday- Wednesday); Miss Wilkinson (teaching assistant, works Thursday- Friday)

We hope that your child thoroughly enjoys their first few weeks at school, and we look forward to getting to know them and helping them to grow and learn.

In reception we follow the interests of the children in order to make their learning as meaningful and enjoyable as possible, so we don't always know in advance which topics we will be exploring. But here is an outline of some of the keys things we will be covering over this first half term.

Learning classroom routines and expectations and thinking about how we treat others kindly.

Helping to develop their own environment. For example, helping to make a counting display and helping to fill up our outdoor sandpit.

Sharing things about themselves and getting to know each other. For example, by talking about families and favourite things.

Consolidate Phase 1 Phonics: Listening to and making a wide range of sounds (voice, instrumental, environmental). Then, begin Phase 2 Phonics: Learn some of the individual letter names and the sounds they make, and begin to read and spell simple words.
Practise reading and writing their name.

Exploring the numbers 1-10 in depth by counting amounts, ordering, comparing, partitioning, adding and subtracting with them. Count aloud beyond 10. Continue repeating patterns. Talk about 2D shapes. Describe the position of things (under, behind etc.)

What to Bring to School

We like to go outside in all weathers and the outside area can get quite wet and muddy, so please can children always bring weather appropriate clothing (warm coat, hats, gloves)? We ask that children bring a pair of wellies to keep in school. We will provide waterproof trousers and thin waterproof coats, which can go over their normal clothing. All clothes must be labelled, especially their jumper which they are likely to take off during physical activities (no P.E. kits needed).

Please can children bring their book bag into school each day. Ideally we would like them to have the sort of bag that fits easily inside their tray, as this makes it much easier to change their reading books.

Each day we provide a choice of fruit, free of charge, for your child to eat at snack time. Most children are happy to eat this and do not require any other snacks. However, if you wish, you can send an additional healthy snack to school, for example, fruit or a cereal bar, rather than crisps, cakes or chocolate.

Up until their 5th birthday, all children are given a free drink of milk each day. If you would like your child to carry on receiving milk after their birthday, then this needs to be paid for- please ask in the office for more information.

Please send children with their own named water bottle which we can help to re-fill, but which will need to be washed at home.

Library

At The Whartons we have a large library area, just next to the Reception classroom. Children can choose a new book to take home each Wednesday (this is different to their reading book). Please can children return their library book the following Wednesday so that it can be changed?

Website

Over the year we will be adding useful information and photographs to our Reception page on the school website. Please go to <http://www.whartonsprimary.co.uk/> then click on *Children and Learning, Classes* and then *Reception*.

Medical

Please make sure you let us know if your child develops any new medical conditions or allergies. If your child needs an inhaler, please make sure you hand one in to the school office and we will keep it safe in the classroom.

Safety

If someone different is coming to pick up your child from school, please let a member of staff know in advance, or we won't be able to send your child out with them.

Parent Helpers

Children (and teachers) love it when parents come in to help. If you can spare any time to listen to children read, help around the classroom, or share your expertise, for example in baking, art or gardening, then please let us know.

Stay and Play

You are welcome to come into the classroom for the first ten minutes of the morning to help your child settle and to join in with their morning task.

If there is anything else you wish to know, then please come and speak to a member of the Reception team at any time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Matthews and Mrs Manderville