

# Oldfield Primary School

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Website: [www.oldfieldprimary.com](http://www.oldfieldprimary.com)

Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Page



3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to start by wishing you all a very 'Happy New Year' and thank you on behalf of the Reception team for the presents, vouchers, cards and your kind words at the end of last term.

We would also like to say a very big 'Thank you' to Mrs Forrest who has been Zebra class teacher from Monday to Wednesdays in Zebra class. Mrs Forrest is moving to Year 5 Tigers and I know that all the children and staff want to thank her for her efforts towards settling Zebra Class during their first term in school.

We would also like to inform all of the parents about some changes that will be taking place in Reception this year. We are fortunate to welcome back Mrs Yaqub, who previously worked in Reception and Year 1, as a teacher to help support Lion Class. As a result, Zebra Class will be led by Mr Bowen with Mrs Pickering teaching Zebra Class several afternoons a week and Mrs Pickering and Mrs Yaqub will be teaching Lion Class. In this way, Mrs Pickering will be able to support both classes as well as support our SEND children in Reception and Key Stage 1. We feel fortunate that we are able to support our Reception classes in this way with 3 teachers.

The focus for our learning in Reception for this short term is 'Builders and Homes' and the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs' and later on 'Handa's Surprise'. The initial focus will be on the different materials of the 3 Little Pigs homes and then later at different homes around the world, exploring our world and how homes are built. You may like to help your child by doing some of the following activities with them:

- Looking at how their home is made and what materials can they see e.g. bricks glass wood etc
- Looking at different buildings in the local area and comparing them to their own home



- Looking at maps of the UK and also a map or globe and identifying land, sea and mountains
- Looking at how homes are different in different countries they have seen or visited
- Watching our favourite builder – Bob the Builder!

We hope that you will enjoy these activities together.

In the second half of the term, the children will also be exploring the different ways they can keep healthy by exercising, eating a range of healthy foods and the importance of keeping clean as well as oral hygiene. You may like to help your child by doing some of the following activities with them:

- Talking about times you have taken your child to see a doctor or a dentist and how they helped your child.
- Thinking about the fun sporty activities that your child does each week and how it makes them feel.
- Looking at foods that are healthy and unhealthy and understanding that some foods are special treats.
- Talking about the importance of keeping clean and washing hands to stop spreading germs.
- Writing or drawing pictures of foods that keep you healthy.
- Make a list of all the different fruits and vegetables that your child likes to eat.

Our Dress up day will be taking place on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** and to celebrate our topic on builders and homes and keeping healthy, all the children will be able to come to school dressed as either a builder, a little pig or someone healthy and sporty!

### Little Wandle reading books

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January, we will be sending home the next Little Wandle reading book. This book, is the same book that they will be reading with an adult in school that week. The copy that comes home is for you to share with your child from Monday to Friday. Please ensure that you return the Little Wandle reading book on a Friday in its folder with the reading diary, so that your child can then take home a Fun Friday book for the weekend. These books are essential to the reading scheme and if they are lost, misplaced or damaged, we will kindly ask for you to replace the book by paying £5. There is a handy guide in the back of the book to offer ideas and support, when sharing the book with your child.

Please also make a note in the reading record book about how your child read the book. This will allow the adults in the class to check and be aware of any comments you have made. This could include comments about how they were able to decode (sound out) the words, their expression when reading or if they had developed a good understanding of the book. If your child doesn't have a reading record book, please inform your class teacher immediately.

Other general reminders:

- Please don't forget to check your child's book bag at the end of each day, as any notes or leaflets will be put in on a daily basis as we receive them.
- Please don't forget to write a comment in the Purple Pages book (collected on a Monday) if you notice your child has acquired a new skill, developed a new interest or just to tell us what they have been doing at home and enjoying at school. We really value your role as your child's primary educators and it will help us to plan for their learning at school.
- Please ensure that during the colder months, your child has enough warm layers and that any items of clothing your child brings in (hat, scarf, gloves, spare, etc) are clearly named and labelled.
- We are a 'nut free school' and no nuts or nut products are permitted in any snack or lunch boxes.
- To help celebrate your child's birthday they are able to wear their own clothes to school, if their birthday falls at the weekend or during the holidays, they can wear their own clothes on a different day of your choosing.
- If you would like to donate a box of tissues for your child's class, please send it in and it will be gratefully received.
- Please continue to keep an eye on the school website for important dates, new photos onto the class pages and the Spring 1 termly overview.
- Children can take part in 'Show and Tell' with 1 photo, a video clip or a small object each week. This can be emailed via the office at [office@oldfieldprimary.com](mailto:office@oldfieldprimary.com) who will forward it to your child's class teacher.

If you do have any questions regarding your child, please email your class teacher via the office.

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team

Mrs Pickering, Mr Bowen & Mrs Yaqub