

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Year R Autumn Newsletter

8th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to welcome you back for a new term, and a special welcome to all the children and parents joining our Westfield Family. We hope that you had a wonderful summer and are well rested for the term ahead. We are looking forward to teaching the children and hope they all settle in quickly.

Clothing

Please can you ensure that **all** your child's clothes are labelled and that your child is made aware that they are responsible for their own belongings. We always do our best to track down missing items and help the children to organise themselves, but inevitably things will go missing from time to time. Please ensure that they bring a coat every day, even if the weather looks good as this can often change.

PE lessons

PE is timetabled for a Monday. PE kits (shorts and t-shirt) can stay in PE bags on your child's peg and taken home at half term for washing. There is no need to provide trainers until the summer term as PE will be inside until then.

Voluntary contributions

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 per term, which helps us to cover the cost of providing food for special occasions such as parties and cooking ingredients. Please send your money in a named envelope at the beginning of each half term.

Book bags and reading books

All children in Reception will need one of our smaller book bags with the top flap, to carry reading books to and from school each day. Please do not purchase the large rucksack style bags as we do not have storage facilities for them during the day.

Your child will shortly be given a school reading book and reading record book. Reading books will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They will only be changed if you have signed their reading record to indicate that they have read their book at home. Please could you make sure that their reading books are in their book bags every day and not just on book changing day.

Key rings are great for helping your child to recognise their book bag, however please ensure that your child only has ONE key ring attached to their book bag as they become quite bulky for storage.

Please DO NOT put water bottles in book bags as this leads to very soggy books!

If you put any letters or forms in your child's book bags could you please let them know that they are there. We will ask them if they have any letters. We don't check book bags every day so if it is something important, ask your child to carry it in separately. Any money and cheques sent in to school should be in a named envelope.

Library books

As this term progresses, your child will be allowed to choose a library book to bring home. These books are for you to enjoy reading with your child, not for your child to read to you, and will be sent home every Tuesday. If you can make sure they are returned the following Tuesday, this will ensure your child changes his/her book regularly. Please take care of these books. They will need to be replaced if they are mislaid or damaged.

Meeting Place

The meeting place gets very busy during morning drop off times and our priority is to get children safely into the classroom. Therefore if you need to pass on any information to a member of staff, please make a note of it on one of the pink message slips available at the office and the staff will ensure we get it quickly.

End of the school day

At the end of the school day (and when waiting for clubs to finish) please ensure children do not play on/with the resources in our outdoor area. We spend a long time tidying up with the children at the end of the day, and as you can imagine, it is frustrating to find it untidy or items damaged the next morning.

We would be grateful to receive offers of any of the following:

Junk materials e.g. inside of kitchen rolls, cereal boxes etc.

Wool and collage materials.

Outgrown socks, pants and school uniform for our spares reserves.

Don't forget Early Years Coffee Morning, Wednesday 20th September at 9am. Come and meet other parents from your child's class.

Kind Regards

Mrs Evans, Mrs Pettie and Mrs Young