

Headteacher  
Mrs S Stace  
Tel: (01442) 862729  
Fax: (01442) 874467  
e-mail: [admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk)  
[www.westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](http://www.westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk)



Westfield Primary School  
& Nursery  
Durrants Lane  
Berkhamsted  
Herts. HP4 3PJ

## Year R Autumn Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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.

### Curriculum

Much of our learning will be play-based and accessed through continuous provision with enhancements that are guided by the children needs and interests. We will however plan for Literacy skills to be taught this term through the texts "The Little Red Hen" and after half term, "The Gingerbread Man". In Maths, we will be focusing on counting, number magnitude and comparing measures. In PSHE we will be focusing on the topic "Being Me In My World" and in RE will be looking at "Special People". We will be learning about the seasonal changes we see around us as well as Harvest to develop our understanding of the world. We will also begin to have PE sessions where we will be exploring different ways of moving our body.

### 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 kit

PE will be taking place in Reception. Please ensure you bring in a PE kit (all items named please) to stay in school each half term. PE kit should include a blue short sleeved top and black or dark shorts in a named PE bag.

### Voluntary contributions

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 per term, which helps us to cover the cost of providing cooking and playdough ingredients. Contributions can be made online via the Arbor Parent Portal. If you are having trouble accessing Arbor, please contact the school office.

### Book bags and reading books

All children in Reception have now received from W1SPA 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/satchel style bags as we do not have storage facilities for them during the day.

Your child will shortly be given a school reading book to practise at home. When this is the case, we will write to you again to explain the system we have put in place to ensure that books can travel to and from school safely.

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 have any letters, forms or written messages that either need the Reception team's attention and/or the school office, we are happy to receive them. Please leave any messages in the clear plastic box outside our classroom door. These will be checked at the beginning of the day.

#### Morning drop off

We are really pleased with how the children are coming into school each day and the soft start each morning, allowing us to personally welcome the children and give them time to settle in the classroom which is working really well. We appreciate your support and patience if you find you end up in a queue for a few moments. If you ever need to catch a member of the team for a brief chat, please indicate to us and we can either pop out and speak to you for a couple of moments or arrange a more convenient time if a longer conversation is needed.

#### End of the school day

Similarly to the morning, thank you for working with us while we get the children ready and out to you. This will speed up and become a much quicker process and already, we are seeing that the children are getting the hang of the routines we have put in place.

#### Snacks

All Reception children will receive a free fruit or vegetable snack so you will not need to send in a snack for your child.

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

Spare boys school trousers  
Shorts  
Dark coloured joggers.

Finally, getting to know your children so far has been a pleasure and we are looking forward to the year ahead in Reception. Thank you again for your support in helping the children settle into their new class and for many their new school. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to catch one of us as we will be happy to help.

Kind Regards

Mrs Cheshire, Mrs Su, Mrs Bray and Mrs Lowen

#### **Key Dates for your diary:**

EYFS Reading & Phonics Coffee Morning – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Day of Languages – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
Tempest Photography (Individual Photos) – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
Parents Evening – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
Half-Term – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
Flu Vaccinations – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
Cool to be Kind Week – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November  
Children in Need – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November  
Open Learning Morning – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November  
Child Shows Parent – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
EYFS Christmas Assembly – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
RockSteady Concert – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December