



Dear Parents/Guardians

We have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school for an exciting summer term and we offer a very warm welcome to Clara and Kedi who have joined the reception girls. It has been lovely getting to know them. We are so proud of the way all the children have made them feel welcome and ensured they know where to find things and where to go. So kind and thoughtful, it has really helped them to settle in so well.



This term we share a whole school topic of '*Things that go*' this week we have talked about what we already know as a class and along with the children we have made a long list of things we want to learn about and do. In art we will be rolling marbles and different cars, trucks etc. in paint, we will be working as designers making marble/pompom runs (remember we are *collecting cardboard tubes* please). We will be outside playing with our water wall and adding to it with pipes and tubes, rolling marbles, balls, cars along with lots of water watching the water wheels and mastering Brian's clever design for looking at water levels. We will also look at the art work by Fischil and Weiss and the Machine designs of Rube Goldberg. We cannot wait to design and construct vehicles, examine moving toys, (children will be encouraged to bring in moving toys from home to show the class and explain how they work each week), build ramps, investigate surfaces, speed, distance etc. We are going to use programmable toys called Beebots and go around the world in 80 days! Preparing for our own imaginary around the world trip we will be looking at aerial photos, maps, atlases, globes and Google Earth. We will explore school and the local area looking and mapping things which move. We will look at the history of toys so if you have any old fashioned toys at home you could share with us so we can learn about the past please let us know. We would love you to show them to us. We will look at famous travellers and explorers, make simple timelines and look at sources of information. Science will be based on a unit about changes and looking at how the children have changed, their senses, changes in the seasons. We will also get as much literacy out of our topic as we can such as using the text 'Nobot' which will be used as a stimulus to get the children to write their own story about a robot who loses a body part, then a unit on a poem called 'On the Road' where the children will be learning to describe a journey to a familiar place. We will also be doing the well-known story 'Train Ride and finishing with a teaching sequence using the text 'Could a Penguin ride a bike?'

In maths we will have a focus on time, money, addition and subtraction this half term then after half term we will move onto multiplication, fractions, division and measure. Our circle time is based on relationships and changes. In RE our focus is belonging and we will be going up to look at the inside and outside of the church and learning about it. If your child has been christened and they have photos they might like to share please send them in. Music is going to have a Latin feel to it this half term with listening and appraising pieces of music, learning new songs and adding instruments to them. Next half term we will consolidate what we have learnt throughout the year and I am sure we will contribute to the summer show with a performance or two.

In PE we will be focusing on manipulation and games skills along with swimming. Please see the newsletter each week for updates on which days we will swim.

At the moment we are hoping to swim on a *Thursday*. It is all very much done at the children's own pace and what they feel comfortable with, we see confidence soaring within a matter of weeks. You do not need to provide, arm bands or woggles as we have them available, but if for example your child is used to wearing a float back pack, it is fine to send this in. Our swimming sessions are not very long so goggles do not need to be worn for safety reasons (unless your child has sensitivity to chlorine). If you have any queries regarding swimming please do chat to one of us.





Just a little reminder that children should bring a named water bottle into school and we encourage them to drink plenty throughout the day (especially now the weather will be getting warmer). We do advise applying sunscreen before the children come to school when the weather really picks up along with a sun hat. We provide a fruit/vegetable snack and milk or water at snack time, so there is no need to send any snacks in. Remember to ensure all your child's clothing is clearly named especially with swimming, PE and warmer days. It really does save us lots of time at the end of the day.

Thank you to everyone who has been reading at home, it really does help the children with both building up their knowledge of sight words and also their confidence. Please do write in their reading record books as needed, as we do read them and feedback praise to the children for their efforts at home. Your child really does need to bring their book bag in every day, this is helpful as we do have a number of reading volunteers who read with the children at least twice a week and change their books (in addition to their guided sessions with a teacher). Please feel free to change your child's books as and when. Ask a member of staff for help if you are unsure. As before we have attached some "I can" sheets for you and your child to complete whenever you like, the children love bringing them in and it's great to celebrate the things they have been achieving at home. Library book exchange day will remain on Friday.



Home learning - We will continue with weekly spellings for year 1 each week. If you can practise them at home over the week this really does help with their Friday morning spelling test. Those that do well each week really are taking off with their writing. We know home learning can be a challenge so please come and see us for some strategies if this is a weekly battle for you or see our website for advice. It is useful for reception children to continue to regularly look at their letters and sounds cards for phase 2 and 3, and also to learn their tricky words for phase 2, 3 & 4. New home learning ideas for this term are on their way and will be with you soon. Again they are suggestions and if your child does complete any please send them in or email a photo of what they have done. We would love to celebrate with them.

Remember to log into *Teach your Monster to Read* and play the games. We are still keen to have a parent/guardian who can spare 20 minutes at 9:00am to oversee a group of up to 5 children on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

Please feel free to chat to any of us at any time if you have any questions or concerns, and if your child comes to school on the bus do feel free to pop a note in their book bag, or call or e mail school. Remember to look at the weekly updates about our learning on the website on Webburn's page so you can stay in touch with what is going on.

Thank you for your continued support,

Anna Perry, Amy Phillips, Fiona and Claire