

Reception Class - CURRICULUM UPDATE

Friday 20th September 2024

Welcome to Class R!

We have had a super start to the school year getting to know our learning environment, making new friends and familiarising ourselves with different routines. The children have enjoyed learning about some of our classroom responsibilities, such as sweeping up with a dustpan and brush, and understanding our composting system. They love to put their fruit waste into our school 'Roly Pigs' and sort their waste into the recycling.

Our classroom has already provided several opportunities to follow and honour the children's interests, in particular in the Atelier where we have been mixing different shades of colours and using them in our first paintings, using mirrors to help us draw black ink self-portraits and learning to care for the guinea pigs. The children have also enjoyed doing observational drawings of the guinea pigs and we will soon start reading to them! Additionally, the children have been inquiring into the letters of their name by attempting to write or copy their name using magnetic letters and count the letters they have in their name(s).

Our daily routine has already become much more demanding with the children being in school all day as well as merging the two groups together, so please continue to be mindful that they may be more tired than usual. Thank you all for your support so far at the beginning of this exciting new school year at Madley Primary School.

A Typical Day

08:50 Children are welcomed into school

- Responsibilities (hang coat on peg, unpack water bottle, put bags in 'cubby' and complete self-registration)
- 'Early Bird Activity' (currently this involves sitting on the bench and looking at a book either independently or with a friend)

09:00 Children are registered, and the lunch list is checked

09:10 **Morning Meeting** (change the calendar, count how many days we've been at school, talk through the daily schedule)

09:20 **Whole Class Focus**

09:30 **Indoor/Outdoor Learning.** Children work with an adult for a period of time within a group or individually.

10:25 Prepare for break

10:30 **Break**

10:45 Prepare for Snack

10:50 **Children eat snack**

11:00 **Indoor/Outdoor Learning.** Children work with an adult for a period of time within a group or individually.

11:45 Prepare for lunch

11:55 **Children eat lunch**

12:25 Transition to Break

12:30 **Break**

13:00 Children are registered

13:05 Mindful Moment

13:10 **Whole Class Focus**

13:30 **Indoor/Outdoor Learning.** Children work with an adult for a period of time within a group or individually.

14:10 Prepare for break

14:15 **Break**

14:30 Prepare for Snack

14:35 **Children eat snack**

14:45 End of Day Responsibilities

14:55 End of Day Routines including a story and reflections

15:15 Prepare for Home Time

15:25 **Dismissal**

Reading and sharing books

As you are already aware we have started sending home books from our class library. Starting from next week, the children will continue to choose their own book to 'snuggle up and read' with, in addition to a reading book from our Phonics Shed scheme. Initially these books will have no words, to encourage storytelling and comprehension skills. Please invite your child to use the pictures to tell the story. We encourage you to share a book at home more than once to give children the chance to consolidate skills. Lots of opportunities for conversations around characters, the setting, plot and answering lots of questions too. Although your child has a specific day to read and change their books, please ensure your child have all their reading books and reading record in their book bags each day.

Independence

Please encourage your child to walk in and out of school carrying their own belongings. On arrival in the classroom the children take responsibility for hanging up their coats, placing bags in their cubbies and putting their water bottle on the trolley. Then, at the end of the day the children are expected to pack-up their own belongings and carry them out of school. You may like to practise turning taps on and off and opening and closing their water bottles to re-fill them independently. Please check your child can recognise their own shoes and coats and ensure everything is labelled.

Self-Challenges at Home

We would like to challenge the children at home to use a timer to complete the following tasks:

- Independently taking off and putting on shoes on the correct feet. Check for banana feet!
- Managing zips and buttons
- Taking off and putting on jumpers and hoodies
- Packing and unpacking their bags

Website – Class Page

Our class page on the website is a great way to share some of the things we have been doing in the classroom. Across the next week, I will be adding lots of photos to share what we have been doing. I will keep you updated with the different things that are added on there as our learning continues.