How to Help at Home

Support at home is **invaluable** to your children's progress and much appreciated.

Please encourage your child to:

- Be correctly dressed for school in full uniform including all black shoes / trainers.
- Have the items they need for school: water bottle, book bag and reading books.
- Be on time for school - we open the doors at 8:45am to start our morning sessions.

Items to have in school:

- Reading diaries each day so the Reception team can add comments after working with your child.

Other ways to help:

You can help your child to learn through the little things you do with them, for example:

- To support your child with their independence when getting dressed, please ensure they wear shoes that are easy for them to put on such as those with velcro fastenings. Encourage your child to try putting on their own coat and shoes.
- Develop their independence in preparing their own snacks and pouring their own water as well as using a knife and fork. You'll be amazed at what they can achieve at an early age.
- We love to be outdoors in all weather so please bring a pair of wellies to stay at school with your **child's name** clearly marked.
- Please ensure that your **child's name** is in **every** piece of clothing to prevent items from getting lost.
- We collect a donation of **50p a week (or £3 per half term)** for the Reception fund. This helps us to buy ingredients for play-dough, baking, toast, and other exciting items for our play. Thank you!

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Monday 10th October	School Photographer
Week Beginning 17th October	Parent Consultations (details to follow)
Monday 24th October	Break up for half term
Monday 21st November	Occasional Day—School will be closed
TBC	Christmas dates and arrangements
Friday 23rd December	Break up for Christmas

We regularly use Facebook, text and email to update and remind parents of events.

Please ensure that the office have your current mobile and email address.

Curriculum Overview

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Reception

Dunston Hill Community Primary School

Ready Respect Kind

Welcome

The Reception Team would like to welcome all of our Reception children and their families to school! The children are settling in beautifully, and stepping up into full days is going well. This is our Curriculum Overview for the Autumn Term. It will give you an outline of our learning in Reception this term and some ideas about how you can help at home. We hope you find it useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We will be getting to know your children over the course of this term, and allowing them to get to know each other too. Good relationships are key!

We are Learning

Literacy

This term we will be starting the 'Read, Write, Inc' phonics programme which will include your child being introduced to a sound a day. We will look at the sound, hear and say words that begin with that sound and write the sound. Every night, your child will come home wearing a sticker which will have the sound that they have learned that day. Please encourage your child to recognise and use the new sounds when they are reading and writing at home.

We will be providing a range of mark-making opportunities for the children around the indoor and outdoor areas such as painting, colouring, drawing and writing notes and labels. We will be supporting the children to recognise their name and write their names on their work.

We will be encouraging a love of reading with daily story times and exploration of core texts. This term we will particularly be focusing on stories about starting school, You be You, The Colour Monster, Leaf Man and Stick Man.

Mathematics

This term we will be developing our counting skills and introducing the children to 'Hey Numbers' and 'Digit Dance' to reinforce their counting skills. We will be using 'Numberblocks' to support our teaching and deepening our knowledge of numbers. The 'Numberblocks' are a great way for the children to understand each number and how they can be represented. This also link to money, time, shape and everyday objects.

We will also be comparing quantities and amounts and making repeating patterns. Autumn is a great time of year to explore different mathematical ideas as we can use the natural materials that children love to collect to make arrays, patterns and pictures.
Although maths activities may seem basic, we aim to allow children to practice what they know, whilst adding small steps of new learning so that they are confident with using and recalling their maths knowledge.

Our Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)

Teaching within the Early Years follows the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This revised framework was effective from September 2021. Staff use Birth to 5 Matters in order to support the implementation of the EYFS framework. Teaching within the Early Years focuses upon seven key areas of learning.

We follow a HighScope Curriculum with an emphasis on active learning which means our children have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas. The Reception team support children's choices of activities, play with them at their level, focusing on their strengths, and encourage them to find solutions to their own problems. We believe that children are entitled to a diverse, challenging and effective curriculum that:

- Responds to individual needs
- Acknowledges their natural enthusiasm and their need to be active learners
- Builds on previous experiences
- Supports and develops their thinking and learning
- Provides appropriate experiences and activities across all areas of learning and development.

Assessment—Online Learning Journals

We record the progress of our children in the form of an online learning journey called Tiny Tracker; this will include photographs of your child and their work along with notes detailing the learning that has taken place. We hope to share your children's learning journals with you before the end of the half term, and there will be further information in the coming weeks.

Learning at Home

Reading is such an important part of Reception. Each week your child will be sent home with two books from school. One of these will be a school library book that will not be at the reading level of our child, but that is a book that you can enjoy and share together. The other book will either be a wordless book or a book matched to your child's phonic ability. These include all of the sounds that your child has covered so far. We regularly practise these at school, and appreciate your support to continue to use these at home, too. Your child will come home wearing a sticker with the sound they have learned that day, so please ask them about it. How it sounds? How do we write it? Words that use that sound?