

Information for Parents
Reception Classes
RG & RV
Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to the start of a new school year and to your child's first term at St Leonard's School. This newsletter should give you most of the information you need, but if there is anything you want to know about any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to ask. One of us will always be free for a quick word at the end of the school day, or you can make an appointment for a longer talk.



Literacy



Reading

The children will receive a home/school communication book/reading diary, in which we will keep a record of the books the children are reading in class. We also ask you to keep a record of any texts you read at home with your child. The children have a 1:1 Reading session once a week with their class teacher. These books can be accessed on Bug Club – you will shortly receive a log in for this. Additionally, the children will bring home books from our school library to share with you at home. Later in the term, we will send home some more information to explain our phonics programme and the reading activities we do.

Writing

Plenty of opportunities for mark making are provided in the classroom environment and outdoor learning area. At this stage, children mark make and talk about the marks they have made. We are currently practising writing our names and forming letters correctly which is supported through daily handwriting.



Numeracy



Numbers

This term, we will be practising our counting skills to 10 and beyond through a variety of practical and engaging activities. When counting, we encourage the children to use their hands/fingers to touch each object one by one to enable accuracy. We are learning to recognise numbers to 10/20 and recognise which numbers mean something to us (age, door number, buses). This is a really exciting way to introduce the children to number and counting. Ask your child to sing some of the counting songs that we have been learning!

Shape, Space and Measure

This term, we will be learning names of common 2D and 3D shapes and beginning to use mathematical vocabulary to describe them (*round, straight*). We also use shapes to create patterns and build models. We are learning some everyday language related to time, money and describing where things are positioned (*behind, next to, in front of etc.*).



How to Help



The first few weeks are a settling in period and we hope during this time the children will learn a great deal about relationships and how to get along with lots of new people. They will participate in activities to develop these skills and have the opportunities to play alongside and with other children. They will learn about paying attention and concentrating as well as expressing their needs appropriately. In addition they will participate in a wide range of activities in all areas of the Early Years Curriculum.



Communication



Please write any notes in your child's home/school communication book /reading diary which will be checked daily. If you have anything urgent or have a letter to hand in, please can you give this directly to your child's teacher in the morning or let the school office know.



IPC (International Primary Curriculum)Topic



This half term, we will be focusing on the topic, 'All about me'. This is a lovely subject to cover as it's an opportunity for all of us to find out about each other and have fun together. We would love for you to join in with us in this topic by joining in with the homework activities written overleaf. We will send out further information regarding topics for the year shortly.



Homework



Our topic this term is 'All about me' and it would be great if you could help us by working with your child on the following:

1. Finding a picture of your child as a baby, one that you don't mind coming in to school – so we can talk about how much they have grown. It would be great if you could spend some time looking at the picture with your child, talking about your family e.g. fun memories of being together and also about them as a baby.

2. Collecting conkers, acorns, leaves with your child to bring in for our Autumn Treasures display. You can also spend some time counting how many you collected and talking about what happens at Autumn time.

3. Lastly, we want to establish really good reading patterns with the children and would ask you to read with your child daily and record when you have read in the home contact book.

Expansion

As you may know, the school is expanding to two form entry with this Reception year being the second year group to have two classes. Both classes use the outdoor learning environment together and the children are enjoying making new friends in both classes!



Dates for Your Diary



22nd October–26th October- Half Term

Monday 3rd December 2pm- EYFS Nativity

Tuesday 4th December 10am – EYFS Nativity

Friday 21st December- Last day of term

Thursday 7th January- Return to school

You will hear more about all these events through Parent Mail so please check Parent Mail regularly.



PE



The children will be participating in P.E sessions each week. The Reception class will be doing PE on Mondays and Wednesdays. We will not be changing for PE until January. You will receive a letter at the end of this half term with information about your child's house team – this will be the colour PE shirt they must wear.

Homework! Please encourage your child to get dressed and undressed independently so that they can manage when we do change for P.E.

Teaching Assistants

We are delighted that Mrs Masters will be supporting the children in Class RV and Mrs Buchanan will be supporting the children in Class RG. We are all looking forward to a happy and enjoyable year together.

Trips

We thought it would be helpful to give you some information about the trip we will be going on this term. Further information will be detailed in a letter nearer to the date.

Autumn Term 2 – Trip to the Zoo 'Living Nativity' - £15.00 approx



Additional Information



Please make sure that every item of school uniform is clearly marked with your child's name. This makes it much easier to find things if they get mislaid.

Reminders

- Hooped earrings are not permitted. Your child may wear a single pair of small studs.
- As a healthy school we encourage a healthy lifestyle and request that sweets/chocolates are not brought to school. They will be confiscated. Your child may bring a bottle of water to school – no juice please.

Your child will be allocated to a house team at the end of this half term. Children with siblings at the school will be placed in the same house team.

Please aim to collect your child promptly at the end of the school day at 3.15pm. If you are delayed, or if someone else is going to collect your child, please inform the school so that we are aware of the situation and your child does not become anxious.

Thank you.