



Old Earth Primary

An information leaflet for parents about

RECEPTION

2023- 2024



Welcome to Reception

This booklet is intended to give families an overview of the class routines and other information specific to Class 1 & Class 2. Your child will need your support to familiarise themselves with the new routines, so please read this booklet together. In Reception the curriculum is play based led and the children learn through play accessing the continuous provision and enhanced activities provided by the adults. Your child will experience a mix of whole class input, small group sessions and independent learning using the resources provided in the areas. Daily Phonics and Maths sessions take place as well as weekly P.E. and Music and Movement sessions.

Home school links

Please speak to us at the start of the day with any quick messages regarding your child e.g. if your child is being collected by someone other than you.

Wows from home: During your child's first week at school a 'wow' star will be sent home. This will be read out, celebrated and displayed on the wall in the classroom. These are for you to share information about your child's achievements at home and noticeable changes since they have started school. It's a way of promoting independence as well as celebrating what your child can do at home. These will be put in your child's reading folder each month, please send in for us to share.

Routine



The doors will open at **8:45am prompt** in a morning and at **3:15pm** at the end of the school day. Please queue on the left side (by the railings) if you are collecting a child from Class 2 and queue to the right at the top of the steps if you are collecting a child from Class 1.



Please note the children have morning tasks therefore the doors close shortly after 8.45am so that the staff can support the learning before registration. If your child is late, please take them to the school office and a member of staff will bring them to the classroom.

Dress Code

A reminder that only a watch and stud earrings may be worn for school. This is for the safety of all children. We also ask that all children come to school wearing school shoes. Please ensure that **all** your child's uniform and their P.E. kit, as well as their coat are clearly named. A thin headband is allowed but please avoid large/novelty hair accessories.

Holidays in Term Time

We endeavour to stay open at all times because we want to make every day count. We can authorise an absence for some circumstances, but we cannot authorise absences for holidays. An absence request form can be obtained from the school website or the main school entrance. Please complete one of these if you know your child is going to be absent.

Please note that we finalise our assessments regarding your child's progress and attainment in May/June to submit your child's data/assessments to the local authority, so please avoid these months.

Communication

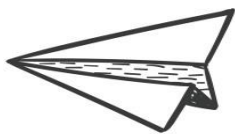
If your child is unable to come to school due to illness or any other reason, please contact the school office and leave a message. If your child is not in school and we don't receive a call/message a member of staff will ring home.



Our school newsletter is sent home every Monday via email, and it is important that all families read about any important dates, notices and other information. The newsletter can also be found on our school website and Twitter. Each year group also has a Twitter account and this is a great way to keep up to date with what is happening in your child's class. **Our Twitter account is @OldEarthRec.**

IMPORTANT: Please let us know if you **do not** want your child to be on Twitter ASAP as we tweet regularly throughout the year.

Outdoor/Messy Play



We do play out daily and messy play is part and parcel of what we do. Children in Reception do have access to aprons, but we still end up messy! Please **do not** expect your child's school uniform to stay in pristine condition.....we have lots of messy fun!

Homework

Homework will be given out every **THURSDAY**. It will be either Maths and Literacy or Topic focused and should be handed in on the following **TUESDAY**. If homework arrives later than Wednesday, it will not be marked that week. At the bottom of every piece of homework we have a message slip for parents/carer comments. These are very useful and informative. Please let us know how well your child has done at home!

Please make sure homework is completed in pencil and any colouring is done in crayon.



Parents' Evening

Parents' evenings are held throughout the year including an informal drop-in session at the end of the school year. During parents' evening parents and teachers will be able to discuss pastoral and academic progress and targets will be shared. In addition, an annual written report will be sent home in the final half-term. If you need to speak to us at any time, please let Mrs Taylor or Miss Holdsworth know and we will happily make an appointment for you after school.



Topics

We have planned to cover the following topics this year through the stimulus of a focused book:

Autumn Term: Traditional Rhymes and Stories /Skeletons - Funny bones

Spring Term: Cold Places- The Emperor's Egg & Boogie Bear /Animals – Oi Dog & Oi Frog

Summer Term: Elephants – Elmer / Sharks – Shark in the Park



PLEASE NOTE: these may change due to world events and/or child-initiated learning.

Reading



Little Wandle Reading:

Reading underpins children's access to the curriculum, and it clearly impacts on their achievement. There is considerable research to show that children who enjoy reading and choose to read benefit not only academically, but also socially and emotionally.

Reading Books:

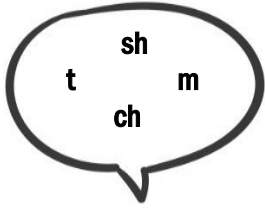
The children at Old Earth School are exposed to a reading and phonics scheme called 'Little Wandle'. All children read 3 times per week and each reading session consists of a reading focus lead by a trained, staff member. Your child will then take home the book that has been the focus during the week to share with an adult. More information will follow at the Reading, Phonics and Maths sessions in September.

Reading for Pleasure Books:



Your child will bring home a reading for pleasure book every **Monday & Friday**. These are identified by a sticker saying 'Reading for Pleasure' with a picture of an owl. Please share these books with your child and enjoy the story/book. There are a variety of books your child can choose from, including non-fiction, story books, picture books, poetry and rhymes and comic annuals. In class your child will get to opportunity to talk about the book they chose and why they would recommend it to a friend!

Phonics



The children take part in a daily, systematic phonics lesson which lasts about 25 minutes. The sessions initially develop children's sound knowledge (GPC's) and oral blending working towards blending for reading. The aim of the programme in Reception is to have all children reading by using the skill of blending by Christmas. Once your child can blend for reading, then he/she will be off with their reading!

If your child is finding an aspect of the programme challenging, then he/she will be in a '**Keep Up**' group to support his/her progress.

Spellings

Children are no longer given a weekly spelling test. However, practising spellings at home is encouraged. Each term you will be sent a set of tricky words to read. Once your child is secure reading these, please practise spelling these words at home.

Phases sent home: Term 1 (Sept-Dec) Phase 2 words / Term 2 (Jan-March) Phase 3 words / Term 3 (Apr-July) Phase 4 words.



Maths



Maths is taught daily in class and throughout the continuous provision the children access daily. We will send maths tasks home regularly as part of homework, but please keep practising working towards counting orally to 50, recognising numbers 0 to 20, counting objects to 20, ordering numbers to 20 and writing numbers using the number songs which will be sent home in the first few weeks.

Snack Time & Water Bottles

SNACK: A healthy snack is available every day. Please send in 50p per week or you can pay for the term or the year.

Autumn Term (Sep to Dec) = £7.00 Spring Term (Jan to April) = £5.00 Summer Term (April to July) = £6.50

This money is used for additional snack, the birthday postman, baking and all the playdough ingredients.

WATER: Please send in a small water bottle, filled with fresh water daily. **No juice is allowed at school.**

PE

Our P.E. lessons are on **MONDAY**. P.E. kits will be sent home half termly to be washed.

The children do use the balance bikes regularly as part of the provision and these can scratch against their legs. If your child could have a pair of joggers/leggings in their P.E. bag this would be helpful and more comfortable for them.



Drop off and Collection

Please drop off at **8.45am**. Mrs Taylor and Miss Holdsworth will open the doors and welcome the children in. We do encourage the children to come in as **independently** as possible, even in the first few weeks. Please note there are staff members in class supporting the children with the morning routines.



On collection at **3:15pm** your child will not be allowed to leave until the teacher sees the parents/person collecting and then calls the child's name. For safeguarding reasons please do not call your child to you. If somebody different is collecting your child, please let your child's teacher know in the morning or alternatively ring school to inform us, otherwise we will not be allowed to release your child.