



## Autumn Term 2024 'I wonder how we are super'



### Welcome to Reception

Welcome to Reception! The children have all managed their first couple of sessions incredibly well and we are so impressed with how well many of them are settling into school life. Please remember, starting Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September, our Reception children will be in school full time. Classroom doors open at 8:45am and close at 8:55am. Collection time is 3:15pm.

### Topics

In Reception we do not have set topics that are planned for the year. Instead, we have some favourite topics that we feel the children will enjoy and then work with the children to plan topics based around their interests. To begin, we have started 'I wonder how we are super' topic as lots of the children have shared their love of superheroes. During this topic, we will think about what makes us special and super, how kindness can be a super power and use key texts all about superheroes. To finish this half term, we will learn about autumn and what happens outside during the season of autumn.

### Being Prepared

Many of the children have already brought in a bag of spare clothes to hang on their pegs. If you haven't been able to do this yet, please just pop a set of spare clothes in a bag that can stay in school just in case they are needed. Please can we also remind everyone to **label all clothing** that is coming into school, including spare clothes. Many of the children wear very similar uniform and having their names on their clothing make it much easier for us to be able to return items to the correct child. We would also like to encourage all children to bring in a named water bottle to help them access drinks throughout the day.

### Our Garden

Outdoor learning is highly valued here at Eastfield. Children in Reception have access to our garden during their self-initiated learning time everyday. All the activities set up in the garden help to develop the children's learning across our curriculum. Please remember to bring in wellies and a coat for your child as we can access the garden no matter what the weather is doing. You are also more than welcome to send in waterproof trousers for those extra rainy days.

At drop off and collection times, we ask that the children do not use the equipment around the garden, especially items such as the bikes. It can get extremely busy during these times and we need to ensure that pathways and walk ways are clear for families to move around safely. At the beginning of the day, many of the activities are set up ready for us to introduce to the children and at the end of the day much of the equipment will be packed away to protect it from the weather. We are more than happy for children to access the wooden climbing frame and swing for a short time, whilst they are waiting.

### Information Sessions

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 9am, we would like to invite our Reception parents to our first information session, focusing on phonics. Please join us in the school hall for a cup of tea and find out more about how we approach phonics at Eastfield and how you can support at home.

Throughout the year, we will be providing our Early Years parents and carers with other information sessions linked to different areas of the curriculum. The second information session will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 6:00pm. During this session, we will be sharing more about the day to day life of being in Nursery and Reception, how we share your child's work and the different areas of learning that we cover.

### Stay and Learn Sessions

Following on from a parent/carer information session, we often run a Stay and Learn session. This is where parents and carers are invited into Rabbit and Squirrel class to join in with activities. These activities are based on what was covered during the information session. Activities are set up across the classroom and adults can sit with the children, play games, read books and share the activities set out.

Our first Stay and Learn session will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 2:30pm. This will be a phonics stay and learn session, where you will be able to join in with phonics based activities and games.

### Reception Baseline Assessment

For the last few years, the government have asked all schools to deliver the Reception Baseline Assessment. This has to be carried out during the children's first 6 weeks of schooling and so we will be administering these over this half term, when we feel your child has settled into school. The children work with their class teacher and we ask them some questions relating to maths, literacy and language. The children see these activities as games. These assessments are then referred back to at the end of year 6 to help build a picture of their progress. Due to schools not receiving any formal feedback on each child's assessment, we continue to work closely with your child to help us build a picture of them as a whole and know where each child needs to move with their learning.

### Key Dates

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| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September, 9am - Reception Phonics information session. | Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September, 2:30pm - Phonics Stay and Learn session           |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September - Jeans for Genes day                           | Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September, 6:00pm - Life In Early Years information session |
| Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September - Individual photographs                        | Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October - Parents evening       |

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>During the first half term we will be learning all about our school rules and routines like how we have lunch and what to do on the playground.</p> <p>Kindness will be a main theme across this half term and we will be spending time getting to know our classmates, making friends and developing our understanding of turn taking.</p>                                                                                                                                           | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Physical Development</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>We will spend some time working on our gross and fine motor skills to help us be ready to develop our letter formation. We will take part in activities that include scissors, nuts and bolts, threading, using pegs and mark making tools to help build up our muscles in our hands and arms.</p> <p>In our garden, we will also have climbing, balancing and co-ordination activities such as stepping stones, large construction and sports equipment.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Communication and Language</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>During our first half term in Reception, we will spend lots of time working on taking turns to talk and learning how to listen well. We will be encouraging children to talk to each other during their learning to explain what they are doing and then to listen to what their peer has to say and respond appropriately.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Literacy</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>We will begin our phonics and literacy sessions during this half term. Our first phonics sessions will help to develop our listening skills to ensure we are ready and able to hear individual sounds and sounds in words. We will then begin learning our Phase 2 sounds.</p> <p>During our Literacy sessions we will be reading books based around the topic for that week. We will be thinking about how stories are structured, predicting what might happen and discussing how characters are feeling and why.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Mathematics</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>Reception children will have a mathematics session every day. We will start by looking at the number system. We will do lots of counting forwards and backwards, recognising numerals and beginning to order them.</p> <p>We will also begin investigating different 2D shapes, naming them and start to look at some of their simple properties.</p>                                                                                                                  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Understanding the world</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>Within our 'Super Selves' topic we will investigate all about ourselves, thinking about what makes us special, our senses and what we can and can't do yet. We will learn about what parts of our bodies do i.e. eyes, legs, arms and how we can stay healthy.</p>                                                                 |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Expressive Art and Design</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>In this half term we will start by learning how to access the paints, what we can use to make marks and what materials and media we can use to make different things. We will explore the construction areas both inside and out and find out how we can connect and combine different mediums. To link in with our 'I wonder how we are super' topic, Reception children will look carefully at themselves and make portraits of themselves and their friends.</p>                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |