



Littleham

CE Primary School



Early Years Newsletter

We hope you find our early years newsletter useful in sharing some of the learning that has been happening, as well as providing useful information and updates.

New Entrance for the Reception Children

From Tuesday 1st November, the Reception children will be entering their classroom through their own Reception door. Reception parents/carers and their children will be asked to wait on the school playground by the Reception outside area, before the children are asked to enter their classroom at 8.50am. To help support transition, parents will be asked to say goodbye to their children outside and the children will be supported by staff members to put their belongings away independently. Children's pegs will also be moved to their Reception classroom. The Reception children will be dismissed at the end of the day from their Reception classroom at 3.15pm, rather than from the Nursery and parents will need to wait by the Reception room to collect them. If you have any questions, please ask.

Nursery Session Times

As the Reception children are now using a different entrance at the beginning and end of the day, Nursery session times will now be **9.00am-12.00pm for a morning session** and **9.00am-3.00pm for a full day session**.



Nursery Places & Sessions:

We are currently consulting with parents about expanding our Nursery provision from January 2017 and being able to offer more all day provision for 3-4 year olds.

Thank you to everyone who has returned the preferred sessions letter. If you haven't yet done this, please could you do so, even if you still want to keep 5 mornings. This will help us to know what it is that parents/carers are wanting from Nursery provision.

'Music Start Project'

Miss Moass and the Reception children are taking part in a 'Music Start Project' this term with an experienced Early Years Music Expert. They will be exploring different musical activities inside and outside through songs, instruments and recorded music.



OUTSTANDING

Firm foundations for the future



Some of our learning this term...

'Dough Disco'

'Dough Disco' is part of Reception's daily routine. Each child is given a ball of play dough and are encouraged to manipulate the dough to music. This helps to develop their fine and gross motor dexterity, hand-eye co-ordination and self-esteem, which will help their hand writing skills. Some of our favourite songs include, 'I Like to Move it, Move it', 'Up Town Funk' and 'Shake it Off'.



Squiggle whilst you Wiggle

The Nursery children have begun the 'Squiggle' programme to help them to develop their pre-writing skills. So far we have been focussing on finger rhymes.



News from the Starfish Room for Two Year olds

We have been doing lots of activities involving pumpkins. We had a go at washing and drying them, learning that things can be wet and things can be dry. We also tried really hard to hammer in some tees into the pumpkins to practise our hand eye coordination skills.

New Pet Fish

The Reception class are the new owners of the school's pet fish. It is the 'Special Helpers' job to feed the fish every day with a member of staff.



Water Wall

Reception love their new water wall! They have been finding out what happens to the water as it travels in different directions. Our **PTFA** are helping us to raise money to improve Reception's outside provision.



General Reminders:



Snack

Every day we provide children with a snack and drinks. We like to offer your children interesting and varied snack options, so we ask if you can please provide your child with **£1.50** every half-term to allow this to happen. Fruit and milk will always be provided. Snack money will be due for this half-term and is payable in the school office.

Coats

The weather is getting colder now and as we use our outside space everyday all children need to bring a coat to school please. Hats and gloves to be named.

Tapestry

After half term, we will be speaking with you about Tapestry. Tapestry is an online Learning Journal; a simple and effective way to track learning and share special moments with parents via your phone or email. It is also a way for you to tell us about those 'WOW' moments at home by sending us a message or photo via Tapestry.

Reception parents accounts will be ready straight after half term. For Nursery Parents, Nursery staff will be speaking with you about this. It requires you to give us your email address so that we can set up a Tapestry account for you – this will all be happening after half term.



Wow Slips

We love to find out about your children's learning at home, so please fill in WOW slips to tell us what they can do so we can celebrate it within our class. For example, sharing with their brother or sister, getting a swimming certificate, getting dressed for school by themselves...



Busy Things

You can now play on 'Busy Things' at home. 'Busy Things' is an online educational website with hundreds of fun games to support your child's learning. Have a go!

www.busythings.co.uk

Username: home5632

Password: hood8098

Registering for School Places

Please remember that even if your child is in our Nursery, you must apply for a school place for your child in Reception next year.

The application process for primary places opens on 15th November 2016 and will close on 15 h January 2017. The Online applications website will be available at:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place> between these dates.

If you cannot apply online, you will be able to apply using a hard copy of the common application form. If you require a hard copy of the application form please contact the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 from 15th November.

