



# Reception Class Parents Information Evening

AT AMBLECOTE WE ACHIEVE BECAUSE IN OUR PUPILS WE BELIEVE!

# Welcome

- ▶ **Acting Head Teacher:** Mrs J. Cook
- ▶ **Acting Deputy Head Teacher:** Mrs M. Pickett
- ▶ **Chair of Governors:** Mrs J. Lewis

# Reception Staff

- ▶ Mrs A. Price - Foundation Stage Co-ordinator and Class Teacher
- ▶ Miss A. Judd - Class teacher
- ▶ Reception Class Teaching Assistants:  
Mrs Brooks, Mrs Hazlewood, Mrs Smith, Miss Wood and Mrs Pope

# Breakfast/ After School Club Parent Teacher Association

- ▶ If you are a working parent and may require the services from our breakfast club or after school club, please email our manager, Mrs Tracey Cutler on [tcutler@amblecote.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:tcutler@amblecote.dudley.sch.uk) as soon as possible as places fill up quickly.
- ▶ Amblecote Parent Teacher Association organise a whole host of events every year for pupils and their families.

They've raised some pretty impressive amounts of money over the last few years. These have supported a wide range of new initiatives including IT investment- 30 Google Chromebooks, new reading books and theatre trips.

# Induction Programme, 2020

- ▶ Each parent/carer has been invited to attend some induction sessions at Amblecote.
- ▶ On **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Parent Transition meetings** will take place in the hall for parents/carers to meet teachers and answer any questions you may have.
- ▶ On **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**, each parent/carer has been invited to try a **hot school meal** with their child:
- ▶ Please sign up for a Parent/Teacher meeting time for you to share information about your child with their class teacher. **Parent/Teacher meetings** will take place in school **on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July.**

# September Induction Programme

## **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

INSET (Teacher training Day)

## **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

Stay and Play sessions

You and your child will be invited to one of these sessions.

## **Monday 7<sup>th</sup>- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

Mrs Price's class to attend AM session 9am-11.30am

Miss Judd's class to attend PM sessions 12.30-3.00pm

## **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

All children to attend from 8.45am-3.15pm

# Early Years Foundation Stage

7 areas of Learning and Development are used to plan your child's learning and activities. For each of these areas your child will have an 'Early Learning Goal' to work towards.

## Prime Areas

- ▶ Communication and Language
- ▶ Physical Development
- ▶ Personal, Social and Emotional Development

## Specific Areas

- ▶ Literacy
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Understanding the World
- ▶ Expressive Arts and Design

# Learning Journeys



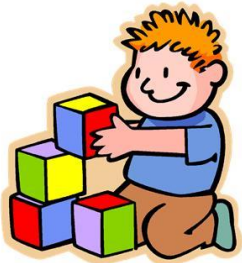
- ▶ We use learning journeys to record your child's achievements, helping us to make judgements on their interests and progress. Your child will have an online learning journey and a paper folder of evidence.
- ▶ We will regularly update your child's learning journey with photographs, comments made by your child and pieces of work they have produced.
- ▶ We will offer you opportunities to come into school so that your child can share their learning with you. You will have the opportunity to contribute to your child's learning journey by e-mailing us and via Parent Share.





# Learning Through Play

- ▶ Play is a very important part of growing up and it underpins the delivery of all of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- ▶ Well-planned play, both indoors and outdoors is key to successful development and learning for your child.



# Outdoor Learning

- ▶ The Reception children have access to the outdoor classroom every day.
- ▶ Our outdoor environment offers children freedom to explore, use their senses and be physically active.
- ▶ Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat and wellington boots in school every day.



# Letters and Sounds

The five basic skills taught through phonics are:

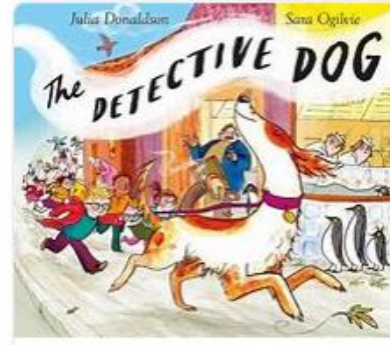
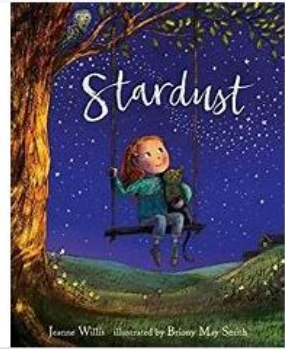
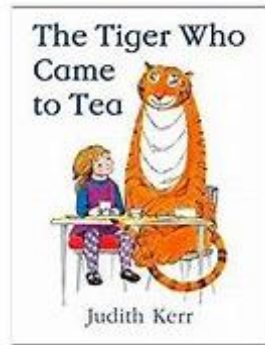
- ▶ Learning the letter sounds.
- ▶ Learning letter formation.
- ▶ Blending sounds to read.
- ▶ Identifying sounds in words in order to spell.
- ▶ Spelling tricky words (those you are unable to sound out).

Each week your child will bring home the sounds they have been learning in school to share with you (alternated with Maths.) We also have a parents phonics session in the autumn term.

# Reading

- ▶ We use the Rigby reading scheme within the Foundation Stage as it progresses in line with the phonic sounds taught.
- ▶ Children will be able to select a “free choice book” with you on a weekly basis.
- ▶ They will access the school library after October half term.
- ▶ Communication between school and home will be shared through a reading diary which parents/ carers are asked to sign on a regular basis.
- ▶ It is essential to read with your child for at least 5 minutes each day.

# Reading Champions



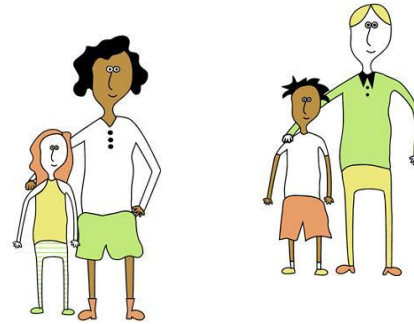
- ▶ *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr
- ▶ *Star Dust* by Jeanne Willis and
- ▶ *Detective Dog* by Julia Donaldson
  
- ▶ GOING FOR GOLD

# SEND

- ▶ At Amblecote we place great emphasis upon supporting pupils with SEND and working collaboratively with their families and outside agencies.
- ▶ If your child has had any involvement with outside agencies e.g. Speech and Language Therapy Service, staff will continue to work on these targets/ recommendations until they are re-assessed by the main school services.
- ▶ As a school, we work closely with parents/ carers to achieve the best provision for your child. We will not involve or make a referral to any outside agency without first discussing and agreeing this with you.
- ▶ If a referral is made, together, staff and parents will collaboratively complete a 'Learning Plan' for your child so all needs can be supported within school.

# School Links with Home

- ▶ Transition books
- ▶ Open door policy
- ▶ Class bears
- ▶ Parents evenings/meetings
- ▶ Themed workshops (Phonics/Reading, Kinetic Letters and maths)
- ▶ Online Learning Journeys
- ▶ Notice board/Newsletters
- ▶ School website/ Parent Hub
- ▶ WOW moments
- ▶ Knowledge organisers
- ▶ Class assemblies
- ▶ Stay and Play sessions



*Parents are children's first and most enduring educators. When parents and teachers work together, the results have a positive impact on children's development and learning.*

# Behaviour

- ▶ We pride ourselves in our relationships with our parents and have an open door policy. Please always come and see us if there is anything you are concerned about or would like advice about. A member of staff will be happy to help at a mutually convenient time.
- ▶ At Amblecote we teach the children to have and show respect for others. We expect all adults to do the same and operate a zero tolerance policy to aggressive and confrontational behaviour.



# An example of the Reception Class Daily Timetable

- ▶ 8:45 - Doors open
- ▶ 8:55 – Bell rings and the door closes. Children **MUST** be in by this time.
- ▶ 8.55 - Registration and visual timetable
- ▶ 9:05 – Assembly
- ▶ 9:25 - Daily Mile
- ▶ 9:40 – Teaching Session 1 Phonics
- ▶ 10:10 - Snack
- ▶ 10:25 – Child Initiated Learning/ Focus activities
- ▶ 11:25 - Teaching session 2 Kinetic Letters
- ▶ 12:00 - Lunch Time
- ▶ 1:00 - Registration
- ▶ 1:15 - Teaching session 3 Maths
- ▶ 1:35 - Child Initiated Learning/ Focus activities
- ▶ 2:40 – Story, rhyme and song time (or RE/ **S**ocial and **E**motional **A**spects of **L**earning activities)
- ▶ 3:15 - Home time

**Reception Class like to go on lots of trips so sometimes our timetable is a little different! We will give you plenty of notice about this.**

# Dropping off and collecting your child

## In the morning

- ▶ A member of staff will always be on the door to take messages and welcome the children into school, another member of staff will be on hand to assist in the cloakroom. Children are encouraged to come into school independently.
- ▶ We do ask that you please leave by 8:55am to enable us to start our activities promptly.

## Home Time

- ▶ Children are only released if we can see a named adult who is on the Reception list.
- ▶ At first, it will take longer to see all children out. Please be patient!
- ▶ Always let us know if somebody different is picking your child up and use the password. If we are unsure your child will remain with us until we can contact you.

# Lunch time



## School dinners

- ▶ From September 2014 hot dinners are free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
- ▶ Mrs Hill prepares hot meals for us every day in our school kitchen. A menu is posted on Parent Hub and a copy is displayed on the parent notice board.
- ▶ Jacket potatoes and sandwich options are available from the kitchen.
- ▶ Water and milk are available for children having school dinners.
- ▶ If you have to send a packed lunch from home please include healthy options as too much sugar gives children a rush of energy which fades during the afternoon.

# Snack time



- ▶ The school will provide the children with a piece of fruit as part of the government's Fruit for Schools scheme. Milk is provided free of charge.
- ▶ We have a group snack time to encourage social interaction and vocabulary development.
- ▶ Please do not send your child with a snack from home.

## Water bottles

All children are required to bring a water bottle to school each day. This should be a **clear** plastic bottle with a sports type lid and should be clearly labelled with your child's name (no screw tops please). Your child's bottle should only contain water. **NO SQUASH OR JUICE PLEASE.**

Water bottles are available to buy from the school office.

# Free School Meals

A new application form **is** now required for new starters even if a parent already has a child receiving FSM at a Dudley School.

If a parent does **not** receive one of the qualifying benefits listed for FSM they do **not** need to complete an application form in order to obtain Universal Free School Meals for their child/children in Years Reception, 1 or 2 as they will automatically be entitled under the 'Universal Free School Meals' criteria.

However if a parent does receive one of the qualifying benefits for FSM and their child/children are in Years Reception, 1 or 2, they will need to submit an on-line FSM application form to enable the school to receive the Pupil Premium Funding.

Please see below the link to access the online FSM application form, along with a copy of the FSM application form.

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>

# To qualify for Means Tested Free School meals you must receive one of the following benefits

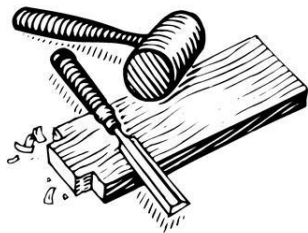
- ▶ Universal Credit (provided monthly net earned income of less than £616.66, after tax and not including any benefits)
- ▶ Income Support
- ▶ Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- ▶ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ▶ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ▶ The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- ▶ Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than (£16,190)
- ▶ Working Tax Credit Run-On – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

# Reception Class Fund

In reception class we aim to provide a wide range of additional activities to enhance our curriculum including gardening, cooking, model making and woodwork.

To provide the extra materials and resources we ask for a voluntary contribution of £1.

We thank you in anticipation for supporting us to provide these valuable learning activities.



# School Uniform

- ▶ We are a 'uniform' school as we believe that a uniform looks smart, wears well and contributes to a feeling of belonging to the school.

## Our uniform consists of:

- ▶ Plain white polo shirt, blouse or school polo shirt with the school logo
- ▶ Red school sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece with the school logo, or
- ▶ Plain red cardigan/jumper
- ▶ Plain grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress (elasticated trousers make it easier for younger children to use the toilet independently)
- ▶ Grey or white socks
- ▶ Grey tights
- ▶ Sensible flat heeled shoes NOT trainers or boots (Velcro shoes are easier for children to fasten.)

## As an alternative option in hot weather:

- ▶ Girls Summer School dress in red and white
- ▶ Plain grey shorts

- ▶ **ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED**

<https://clothing4schools.com/264-stourbridge-schools-academies>





# PE KIT

## **INDOOR P.E Kit:**

Black pumps

Plain white T-shirt or school T -shirt with the school logo

Plain black shorts/skort

Spare white socks

## **OUTDOOR P.E Kit:**

Black tracksuit

Plain white T-shirt or school T -shirt with the school logo

Plain trainers

No earrings or jewellery and long hair must be tied back.

All children need a drawstring bag to hold their P.E. kits.

**ALL PE KIT MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED**



# Health

If a child is taken ill at school, parents are notified so that they may be collected from school. **Please keep your emergency contact details and mobile phone numbers up to date with the main school office.**

- ▶ Prescribed medicines – we can administer these in school if they are prescribed to be taken 4 times a day.
- ▶ Allergies – If your child has an Epi-pen then we must have two in school.
- ▶ Asthma (all children who have been diagnosed with asthma will need a care plan.)
- ▶ First Aid/ Accident Book
- ▶ Head Bump letters/ phone call



# Absences



## **Good attendance is very important.**

We expect all children to attend school each day and on time unless they have a genuine illness or other legitimate reason for having time off. If you are unsure, send your child to school and if they are ill then we will send them home!

It is essential that school receives an explanation by telephone on the first day of absence. If we don't hear from you we will call you in accordance with our first day absence procedure.

## Family Holiday in School Time

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 the Department for Education introduced significant changes to the regulations in regard to attendance. The new arrangements make clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence (which includes holidays) during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.



# WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?

Right to education (Article 28)



**Platinum  
100%**



**97%**  
UP TO 6 DAYS  
ABSENCE FROM  
SCHOOL



**Well Done!**

High attendance leads to improved and high achievement which means greater success.

**96.9% - 93%**  
UP TO 14 DAYS  
ABSENCE FROM  
SCHOOL



**Worrying!**

Too many missed school days.  
Less chance of success.

**92.9% - 90%**  
UP TO 20 DAYS  
ABSENCE FROM  
SCHOOL



**Concern!**

Reduced chance of success.  
Possible court action.

**Below 90%**  
CONSIDERABLE  
ABSENCE FROM  
SCHOOL



**Serious!**

Lowest chance of success.  
Possible court action.

There are 175 non school days a year.  
That's plenty of time to go on visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments.

# Parking

- ▶ There is a limited amount of street parking when bringing children to school. Additional short term parking is available on the open space, just on the left hand side before you get to the school entrance. Please do not drop children off on the wavy lines outside the school entrance, or drive up the school driveway.

# Safeguarding Children

If you are concerned about a child then please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who is Mrs Cook or one of our deputy safeguarding leads- Mrs Price, Miss Careless, Mrs Pickett, Miss Skirving, Mrs Sparrow, Mrs Dunckley and Miss German. Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. If we are concerned about a child we have a duty of care to contact children's services. If you are concerned about a child outside school call 0300 555 0050 with your concerns and seek advice. Our Safeguarding policy can be found on the school website.

## ▶ Mobile phones




We ask parents/ carers not to use mobile phones in the Reception playground and during stay and play sessions.

# Things your child needs everyday

We provide all of the equipment your child needs for their day to day learning. These are the things your child will need to bring with them each day.





- ▶ Book bag (no rucksacks please)
- ▶ Library book/ Reading book
- ▶ Reading Diary
- ▶ Water bottle - labelled
- ▶ Packed lunch (if your child is not having a school dinner)
- ▶ P.E. Kit (kept on peg)
- ▶ Wellington boots (kept on peg)
- ▶ Waterproof coat
- ▶ Homework books to be returned on Thursdays please.

# Starting school checklist

- ▶ Read to them – create a love of books 
- ▶ Give them opportunities to practise taking turns and also to play independently
- ▶ Say please and thank you and wait their turn to talk
- ▶ Encourage them to tidy away their own toys
- ▶ Help them use a knife and fork and taste different foods 
- ▶ Make sure they can open their lunchbox
- ▶ Toilet train so they can use the toilet independently and wash and dry their hands. 



# Starting school checklist continued...

- ▶ Teach them how to put their shoes on – velcro is best! 
- ▶ Teach them to put on and take off their own coat and fasten the zip to the top
- ▶ Practise putting on and taking off PE kit 
- ▶ Label everything with your child's name, including shoes
- ▶ Practice counting from 1 – 5, recognising and ordering each number
- ▶ Show them how to hold a pencil correctly. Teach them how to recognise their own name. Begin to write it using the Kinetic Letters Guide 
- ▶ Practise how to use scissors safely – cut along a line, cut out a shape 

# Thank you for listening

- ▶ We look forward to working with you and your child. Please sign up for a parent/ teacher meeting.
- ▶ Please return completed forms when you attend your meeting.