

Welcome

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a lovely summer and we look forward to forming a partnership with you over the year to support your child's education here at Griffin Primary School. We have enjoyed welcoming and getting to know the children and look forward to our learning adventures together.

Reading books

At the beginning of Reception, we start the reading journey with wordless books. This helps us focus on reading behaviours before reading words. We have included a QR code on each book to provide a model of how to use these books at home.

We will also send home another book which should be read to them. This book will contain words they have not been taught so we **would not** expect them to read this, it is simply a book to enjoy and talk about together.

All books will be sent out on a **Friday** and should be returned by **Wednesday**. Please only send a book bag on these two days.

We will also be sending out more information about our exciting new phonics scheme and how to support these skills at home in the coming weeks.



PE kit

PE is on a **Tuesday morning for RCM** and a **Wednesday morning for RSW**. Please send your child in suitable sportswear on this day and be aware that we may have PE outside, so a light jacket should be sent on cooler days.

Please remove earrings as a precaution.



EYFS - Reception Autumn 1

Labelling of clothes

Please could you ensure that your child's name is written in ALL of their clothing so they can be returned to the correct child. It would also be helpful to label water bottles and packed lunch boxes.



Keeping in touch

We use Tapestry to share your child's learning with you so you can see all the fun they are having in class. You can even add your own observations so we can share in their experiences at home. Let us know if you haven't got access yet and we can sort this for you.

If you have any concerns or queries, please always approach us to discuss these or arrange a meeting. We are always happy to help in any way we can.

The school day

8.40am - Reception gates open

3.20-3.30pm – Pupils can be picked up between these times. (1.35-1.45pm on a Thursday)

The EYFS team

Assistant Head and Phase Leader

Mrs Smith louise.smith2@vennacademy.org

RSW

Mrs Walker lyndsey.walker@vennacademy.org

Mrs Ellwood

Mrs Comins

Mrs Sharp

RCM

Mrs Metcalfe

Charlene.metcalfe@vennacademy.org

Mrs Taylor

Mrs Scarr

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Your child will be learning all about their new classroom routines, environment and friends. We will learn how to work and play well with others, as well as how to listen and respond to both their peers and staff. We will build confidence through challenging new activities and begin to understand why we have rules and how to behave in different situations. We will also help your child understand a range of feelings and how to show those feelings in an appropriate way.

Understanding the World

This half term we will be focusing on the seasons and how these change the world around us. We will look at each one closely and begin to identify the clues which show us what season we are in. We will develop our ability to look closely at things and ask questions about what we observe. We will use the book 'Tree: Seasons Come, Seasons Go' alongside this exciting journey, learning how to perform this seasonal tale.

Physical Development

Throughout Griffin's Early Years environment there are lots of opportunities for your child to develop these skills. Your child will have access to the outdoors come rain or shine, meaning they can strengthen their core and develop skills such as climbing, balancing, riding and large mark making. Inside children will develop their fine motor skills through opportunities such as tweezers, threading, manipulating play dough, drawing, writing and snipping.

Literacy

We will focus on reading for pleasure this half term, introducing a range of exciting books that we can learn actions and songs to. We will learn new words and begin to notice that stories have similarities and differences. To link to our seasonal studies, we will also look at information (non-fiction) books.

In phonics, we will start to learn the sounds that single letters make, joining them together to make words that we can blend to read. We will learn how to form those letters so that we can write for many different reasons in our environments, both indoors and outdoors.

Autumn 1 – Reception



How to help at home

- Read together as often as possible.
- Sing nursery rhymes.
- Use scissors and dough to build hand strength.
- Talk with your child and expect them to listen to your responses and engage with what you say.
- Look at the world around them and explore the weather, plants and insects.
- Draw and paint together. Get messy and creative!

Expressive Arts and Design

Your child will be given lots of opportunities to get creative with paint, pens, junk modelling objects and dough. They will be given a range of exciting materials to work with and will experiment with mixing colours, building models, joining, sticking, cutting and experimenting with their designs. We will create opportunities to develop their skills and show them techniques that may not be familiar with.

Communication and Language

As your child settles in, they will have lots of opportunities to talk to their friends and staff. Your child will take part in circle times which allows them the time to give their opinion and explain their thoughts. We will introduce new words and discuss their meaning through discussions, stories and drama to build confidence and learn that communication involves both listening and talking.

Mathematics

In maths, we will focus heavily on the numbers 1-5. We will begin to see how these amounts are made up in different ways and that sometimes they look different if we arrange our objects in various ways. We will secure our ability to count one object at a time and understand that one number name should be used for each object and that the final number we say, when counting, is the amount we have altogether. We will do this through lots of fun activities, songs and play both indoors and outdoors.

