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Headteacher: Miss N. Morris BA (Hons)

Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

## **Reception Newsletter**

**25th September 2023**

Dear Saxon families,

We really enjoyed having the children in school for a full week last week. All the Reception staff have spent a lot of time interacting with each child to find out more about them and their interests. It has been wonderful getting to know the children!

This week, children enjoyed reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. They discussed the story in groups, spoke about how the bear felt, created story maps and more. The children also had fun counting objects using 1 to 1 correspondence and they used key terminology to describe the position of objects – under, over, next to, behind, in front of.

### **Home learning**

Last week we sent home a phonics sheet that shows the sounds that we have learnt in class. Please go over recognising these sounds with your children and practice them at home. This will hugely support their learning in school. We will continue to send home phonics home learning every Friday. There is no need for your child to complete anything on paper, it is just to let you know what we have covered in class and to let you know how you can help at home.

We would like to reiterate the importance of reading to your child at home. The many benefits of this include the following;

- improving cognitive development
- increasing vocabulary
- boosting memory
- enhancing focus

The children hear at least one story a day at school (often more) and really enjoy our Story Time! Getting excited about books and engaging in stories is a crucial part of early reader development.

### **Learning:**

In Reception we use paper slips to record your child's learning. You will be able to read the comments on the slips in your child's learning folder during parent consultation meetings. We may also take a photo to accompany the written observation.

### **Our topic for this term is 'All About Me'**

*Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.*

Next week in Reception, we will be introducing the following as part of our focused learning:

#### **Communication, Language & Literacy:**

- Focusing on the story 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell and Patrick Benson
- Exploring sounds in nature
- Listening for alliteration and experimenting with sounds that we can make using our voices

#### **Maths:**

- Oral counting from 0 - 10
- Matching and sorting objects



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- 1:1 correspondence (counting the correct number of objects)
- Exploring Numicon (a resource that we use to support learning in Maths)

If you would like any further information on Maths at Saxon, please refer to the Saxon Maths website: <https://saxonmaths.weebly.com/>

#### **Other Areas of Learning:**

- UW (Understanding the World) – We will discuss our senses and focus on what we hear, see and smell in our outdoor environment.
- PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)- “Being Me in My World” – introducing our zones of regulation displays, giving the children ways to communicate how they are feeling.
- EAD (Expressive arts and design) – Creating owl art and thinking about the noises you can hear at night.
- PD (Physical development)-This term we are focusing on ‘Catching and throwing a ball’ which will help children with muscle development, hand-eye coordination and fitness.

#### **Notices/Reminders:**

- There are still some parents that haven’t registered with Scopay. Please do ensure you register your account as you will need this to book parents evening amongst other things. If you require another link code, please contact the school office ASAP.
- All children are encouraged to bring a **named** water bottle to school daily.
- Please ensure all items of uniform are also named, particularly jumpers and cardigans that are taken off and on many times throughout the day, and left in different areas.
- Junk modelling forms part of our daily provision. We would appreciate your donations of plastic bottles, lids, cardboard boxes etc. No nut product packaging please.
- Please ensure that all children are provided with a spare change of underpants, socks or tights in a named carrier bag.
- We offer children a piece of fruit as a snack daily. We also encourage children to bring in their own piece of fruit in case they don’t like what’s on offer for that day or would like an extra ‘boost’ in the afternoon. The children keep this in their bags until needed. Please also see an update on snacks in the general newsletter; other healthy snacks are now also allowed.
- Please do not hesitate to email or call the school if you have any questions. Class teachers can be contacted via [info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk](mailto:info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk)

**The Reception Curriculum Information meeting will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 3:15pm and 6:00pm. Please note the information shared during these sessions will be the same so there is no need to attend both.**

Kind Regards,  
 Reception Team  
 Mrs Morley, Miss Glaves and Mrs Bright