



AUTUMN TERM

Walt Disney Class



Welcome to Reception! We have had a great start to the year, with the children settling into their new class and school life well. They are really excited to get to know each other and make new friends. The children are learning about our school rules and our daily routines. We will be singing nursery rhymes and counting songs, developing their listening skills as well as recognising rhyme. We will also be using the children's interests to enhance our learning opportunities and ensure that learning is fun!

ClassDojo

It is brilliant to see that almost all of you are now connected to ClassDojo and this will help you keep up to date with all our class and school news at Greenfield. We will regularly share what the focus of our learning has been for the week, including photographs of your child engaged in their learning. Every Friday, we have our Star of the Week Awards (one child from each key worker group) and we post photos of recipients on ClassDojo. You might have noticed the messaging facility too; this is great for passing on non-urgent messages or if you have a quick, simple question. However, please do approach us for more urgent or important discussions.

Book bags & Reading

The children need to bring their book bags to school every day. They are really useful for putting letters and messages in, as well as keeping reading books, new sounds and tricky words safely together. Looking after their book bags is also one way in which the children can further develop their independence. Please only send your child's book bag in to school each day. Additional bags/rucksacks are not necessary as we have very limited storage space.

Your child will receive a shared reading book from school as well as an online reading book each week. Please attempt to read with your child four times per week and write what they have read in their reading record. If your child achieves this, they will receive a star in their reading record. If they collect ten stars during a term, they will receive a Read for a Star certificate. Your child will also be provided with a sound pack containing taught sounds and tricky words. Please practise these with your children.

Please look out for an invite to our reading and phonics information event this month. The Friends of Greenfield (FrOG) will be serving refreshments and there will be some time to relax and get to know the other reception parents.

Water bottles

It is important that the children drink plenty of water to stay hydrated to keep their brains active. They need to bring a clean water bottle into school each day. Please make sure that your child's bottle is clearly named.

PE kits

PE kits (white T-shirt, black shorts, plimsolls) are needed in school each week. Again, please ensure that all items are clearly labelled and brought in a separate, drawstring bag to leave in school. We will send home PE kits for washing at the end of each half term.

Coming into school

As the children settle into school life, we would like to encourage them to come into the classroom and organise their belongings independently. Our morning drop off procedures are working well with this so thank you for your support.

Learning outdoors

Our children learn outdoors every day whatever the weather, so please can you make sure that your child has a waterproof coat and, as the weather cools, gloves, hat and scarf too. On Forest School days, we have a superb mud kitchen in our outdoor area. We ask that children bring in a pair of wellies and a puddle suit for their Forest School sessions. Puddle suits will be sent home at the end of each session, but wellies will be kept in school throughout the term which will give the children greater access to the forest school area.

Baseline Assessments

We are currently making our baseline assessments, including the Statutory baseline assessment. Most parents have returned their completed pre-assessment form. This information is very useful and we appreciate your help. If you have not yet returned your form, please return it as soon as possible.

Most preschools passed a copy of the children's Learning Journeys straight to us or have sent us a Tapestry link. If you have your child's learning journey booklet (it might be called a 'special book' or 'profile'), we would be grateful if you loaned it to us. These booklets give us

an invaluable insight into what the children have already learned and their interests. All Learning Journeys will be returned to you at our first parents evening later this term.

Who's who?

Mr Sutton and Miss Emery are our Reception class teachers. They both work with the whole class but also work with their key groups for different parts of the day. Our teaching assistant, Miss Lees, provides additional support, along with other teaching assistants who support group reading sessions and our college trainees.

Please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Sutton, Miss Emery or Miss Lees if there is anything you are not sure about. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your children over the next few weeks and to a happy and successful year.

Best wishes,

The EYFS Team