



# Welcome to Ladybird Class

Welcome to the Autumn Term of Reception. I hope that everybody is raring to go and looking forward to an exciting year of learning and fun ahead. A HUGE thank you to all of the parents, children and younger siblings who made Mrs Humphrey, Mrs Thomson and I feel so welcome in your virtual home visits during the first week. It was lovely to get to know you all a little bit better and we are really looking forward to working with you during the year. Well, the first week is over already and the children appear to have gone home on Friday happy, if a little tired.

## Topic

This term will be very busy and the children will be working hard familiarising themselves with school routines, as well as learning lots of new things. Our topic for the first half of the Autumn Term is 'Tasty Tales and Revolting Rhymes'. Where we will be looking at the stories of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Little Red Hen, Incy Wincy Spider, Humpty Dumpty and many, many more. Although this is our main theme the children are encouraged to follow their own interests where possible so our plans may change as the term progresses.

## Book Bags

Please ensure that your child brings their book bag to school daily so that they can choose or change their picture books and put any letters or pictures in to take home.

## Reading

The children will shortly be given a reading book alongside their picture book. Please spend some time reading this with your child, talking about the pictures and discussing the events in the book—don't forget to write in the reading diary too so that I know how your child has got on with their book at home. **The expectation is that all children read five times a week at home and that an adult will sign their diary each time they share a book.** Children who maintain this expectation for the half term are rewarded with a certificate from Miss Longworth. Reading at least five times a week has a massive impact on the progress that your child makes at school.

## P.E. kits

We would normally be asking you to provide a P.E. kit for your child to keep at school however as discussed during our home visits we will NOT be asking you to do that this half term due to COVID-19 restrictions. After having the children in for just over a week we feel that it would be best to just start off simple and get the children used to playing familiar circle games and activities in the hall. This will allow the children time to become used to our P.E. rules and expectations in a smaller environment. During these sessions we will be asking the children to take off their jumper/cardigan, their shoes and their socks. Please practise this at home so they can show us how independent they are becoming. Our P.E. sessions will take place on a Tuesday afternoon.

## Coats

We will be using the outdoor area as much as the weather will allow. Please send your child to school with a coat everyday so that they can access both the indoor and outdoor classroom.

## Online Learning Journals

In Reception we use an online app called 'Tapestry' to keep a record of your child's learning and achievements. You will be able to access your child's learning journal and add things through the online tool. Emails will be sent out during next week to enable you set up your log on details. If you do not receive your activation email to create your log on or have any other issues with Tapestry please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Dates for your diary!

- Wednesday **14th October** 6pm - Reception Parents Information Meeting on the curriculum
- Tuesday **10th November** 6pm - Reception Parents Reading, Writing and Phonics Evening
- Monday **18th January** 6pm - Reception Parents Maths Information Evening

I am really looking forward to working with you all throughout the year. If anybody has any questions or concerns about their child or the activities that we are doing please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Yours Sincerely

Kimberley Hiles