

Caversham Park Primary School



Together we enjoy, create and achieve

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to the new Reception children and their families joining the school and class. I hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer and that you are looking forward to an exciting year ahead with your child starting school. I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with information about the term ahead.

Curriculum

This year your child's learning and development will be informed by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework. The children will learn through play-based activities as well as learning to build up time spent on an adult directed learning task. Children's achievements both at school and at home can be uploaded onto Tapestry; an online learning journal. We will send you more details about how to register and use this educational platform shortly. The main theme and topic for this term is 'Marvellous Me' where we will be getting to know each other. We will follow this on with 'Castles' whereby children will learn how to sequence events, about who lived in castles and some of the famous monarchs.

Reception Baseline Assessments

Your child will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting reception. The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a progress measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between reception and year 6. It is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. The RBA is not about judging or labelling your child or putting them under any pressure. Your child cannot 'pass' or 'fail' the assessment. Its main purpose is to create a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils. For more information please visit [Reception Baseline Assessment \(Information for parents\)](#) or please do come and ask.

Reading and Phonics

This term your child will bring home a reading record and reading book. They will be given the opportunity to change their book every day; however I would like each book to be read on **two separate occasions** before being changed. Your child has plenty of opportunities to read individually, with a teacher and with their peers in school. However, I cannot stress how important it is that your child reads or shares a book with an adult **every day** at home. Please sign the reading record book when you have heard your child read so that we can move them on to the next book.

We are also hoping to offer a general information session for Reception and Year 1 parents/carers about reading with your child and phonics later this term. We will provide further details once this is confirmed.

School uniform

Please can all uniform be named to avoid children losing items. We do like to get the children outside into the Duck Class garden or on the playground come rain or shine so please provide your child with a waterproof jacket if there is due to be wet weather. Please bring your child dressed in school uniform that is appropriate for the outside temperature.

PE

This term our PE lessons will take place on a Friday. However, it is essential that your child has their PE kit in school at all times just in case our lessons change or we have special activities. We will send PE kits home to be washed at the end of every half term. Please make sure children have PE socks in their bags. Please make sure ear studs are removed before school or surgical tape is provided to cover them up and long hair is tied back.

Water bottles

Please provide your child with a named water bottle for the classroom each day. They will have access to them throughout the school day. We kindly request that only water is provided in their water bottles. However, please do speak with a member of staff in the case of exceptional circumstances.

School Dinners

Please remember to book your child's dinner at the latest, the night before. We suggest that those that want to try their child/ren on school dinners, might like to do so for the week at the beginning of the school year so that they can be positively supported and encouraged in school to try new foods and enjoy a hot meal. There is also fresh bread and a delicious salad bar on offer daily to the children.

Packed Lunches

If you are providing a packed lunch for your child then all products must be sesame and nut free. Therefore, please check all packaging, particularly on bread products. We are also a Healthy School so please do not pack such foods as sweets or chocolate bars.

Finally, I would like to say that I am very much looking forward to working with you and your child this year. If you have anything you wish to discuss with me, I am available most days after school and if I cannot see you immediately, then an appointment can be made.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss C. Long