



RECEPTION - Autumn 1

Classroom

News



Avondale
Primary School



Week Commencing - 16th September 2024

OUR NEXT STEPS IN LEARNING -

This week we will continue with the statutory reception baseline assessment.

Next steps in Phonics – this week we will be practising the skill of oral blending. It is important that pupils can orally blend sounds to hear words as this is a vital prerequisite skill for reading. We will also introduce our pupils to the phonemes s and a.

How you can support at home -

If you would like to practise oral blending at home, then click on the links below for guidance.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WURzEc-A6k>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqpgKb8Gdx>

We will also introduce our pupils to the phonemes s and a.

Next steps in Literacy – We will be practising our pre-writing shapes and developing our tripod grip for writing.

How you can support at home -

- Click on the link to watch how to draw these pre-writing shapes- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ha9U6sr1Gcl>
- Practise drawing these shapes at home. You could draw them in shaving foam, flour, with chalks, crayons and pencils.

Next steps in Maths -

Our Maths unit this week is Subitising. This week, the children will be encouraged to quantify sets of objects by subitising, rather than counting. When subitising, children can say how many there are in a small group of objects by 'just seeing' and knowing straightaway without needing to count. We will be subitising the amounts 1 and 2.

Subitising can be categorised as 'perceptual' or 'conceptual'. Perceptual subitising is used for very small sets of objects (initially up to about 3) and conceptual subitising is used when sub-groups can be perceived within a larger set and the whole is recognised, e.g. if 6 dots are arranged in a dice pattern, children may recognise this as 'two 3s' and know this is 6. Some arrangements are easier to subitise than others, e.g. a set of 3 dots arranged in a triangular pattern may be easier to recognise than a random arrangement, and children need to be exposed to many different arrangements.

Next steps in learning -

During circle time we will begin to explore our feelings. We will introduce the pupils to our Reception feelings tables where they can record how they are feeling and our self-regulation area where they can go if they need some quiet time. We will read the fabulous story "The Colour Monster" and talk about things that make us happy. We will use our creative skills to make our own colour monsters, and create a class happy jar.

Click on the link to sing our Happy Song - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06Kg6XeMhQU>

Reception Curriculum Workshops for Parents

At Avondale, we believe it is important for school and home to work closely together. Over the next few weeks, we have planned a series of curriculum workshops to help develop your understanding of what your child will be learning in their first year at school. Our first curriculum workshop will focus on Understanding the EYFS Curriculum and will be held on –

- **Wednesday 18th September - 3.30 - 4.15pm**

This workshop will be held in the Reception unit. We look forward to seeing you there.

Gardeners and Seeds

Yesterday, your child was introduced to their Year 6 gardener. At Avondale we have developed a Seeds and Gardeners project that is very successful and is spoken about with much affection by all those involved.

On starting school, every Reception child (the seed) is linked to one of our Year 6 pupils (the gardener).

Gardeners will act as a buddy to their seed, helping them find their way around school in the first few days and weeks, sit with them at lunchtimes until they feel more confident. Their role is to help nurture each Reception child so that they blossom and shine.

Gardeners and seeds write letters to each other, see each other around school and often exchange Christmas and birthday cards. They take part in other planned activities throughout the year, including reading books together, playing games and enjoying craft activities. Look out for our Gardener and Seed photos on our school blog – coming soon!



Supervised Tooth Brushing



At Avondale we participate in Blackburn with Darwen Council's supervised tooth brushing programme for children and would like to invite your child to be involved in free tooth brushing with fluoride toothpaste once a day at school. Training has been provided to all the relevant school staff by qualified oral healthcare professionals from AP Smilecare, a long established and well-respected dental practice, located within the borough.

Supervised tooth brushing at school has been shown to be effective at improving oral health for children. Each child participating will receive free toothbrushes and free toothpaste, provided by Blackburn with Darwen Council.

All children will automatically be enrolled on to the programme unless you complete the reply slip below to refuse consent.

Your child will be brushing their own teeth under the supervision of the school staff. It is important to stress that this session is not intended to replace tooth brushing at home. Our aim is to help support and reinforce what you are already teaching your child. It is still important that your child's tooth brushing is supervised by an adult at home, in the morning and last thing at night before bed. Brushing before bedtime is especially important, to prevent plaque and food particles remaining in contact with the teeth throughout the night.

You can withdraw your child from the programme at any time but please inform the school staff.

Please complete the opt-out link below if you **DO NOT** wish your child to participate in the free supervised tooth brushing programme.

[Click here- opt out link](#)

If you have any queries about the programme or would like more information, please contact the school for further information.

HAVE A LOVELY WEEK - THE EYFS TEAM

