



# RECEPTION - Autumn 1

# Classroom

# News



*Avondale*  
Primary School



## Week 1 - 6th September 2023

Welcome to Avondale Primary School and a new school year. We hope that you have had a fantastic summer break. The Reception team are really looking forward to getting to know you and your children and having a wonderful, fun-filled year with lots of new learning and positivity. The transition from pre-school to Reception can be a little bit daunting at first but we will ensure that your child settles in just fine. They have all made a brilliant start already! Mrs Taylor, Mrs Stowe and Miss Robinson are the Reception teachers. Mrs Stowe's teaching days are Monday and Thursday, Mrs Taylor's teaching days are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Miss Radomskij, Mrs Martin, Mrs Jeal and Miss Gregson are our amazing support staff. Mrs Joyce and Mrs Jeal teach Reception on a Friday afternoon.

The Reception staff are available at the start and end of the day should you wish to speak with us, or just say "Hello". Mrs Taylor is the Early Years Lead and Assistant Headteacher, and is also available should you wish to speak to her about any matter.

We are all excited to see what this school year will bring!

## Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 12th September - Reception Parental Drop-in session (after school until 4pm)

Wednesday 20th September -- Reception Parental Drop-in session (after school until 4pm)

Thursday 5th October - Harvest Celebrations

Friday 6th October - Reception Pirate Day

Thursday 12th October - New Reception 2024 Open evening 6pm

Tuesday 17th October - New Reception 2024 Open Afternoon 1:30pm

Wednesday 18th October Parents' Evening 3:30-7:30pm

Fri 20th October - School closes for half term

Tuesday 31st October - School re-opens for Autumn 2

Tuesday 31st October - High school applications must be submitted

W/c 27th November - Assessment Week

Friday 1st December - Christmas Craft Day

18th December - Autumn Report Cards to go home

Friday 22nd December - School closes for Christmas at 1:30pm

## RECEPTION PARENT DROP-IN SESSIONS / OPEN CLASSROOMS

This year we will continue to run our very successful Reception drop-in sessions. These sessions are held straight after school and are very informal. Reception staff are available should you wish to come and say hello, have a chat about your child or just look around the classroom.

The dates for our Reception drop-in sessions this half term are -

- Tuesday 12th September 2023
- Wednesday 20th September 2023

After school until 4pm

# What we are learning

## PIRATES IN SCHOOL

Our first topic this half term is Pirates in School! First, we will be exploring the question - Where Am I? The children will explore and learn about their new school environment, and the location of different rooms. They will learn about who works in our school, where they work and how they help us in school. They will follow a map and go on a tour of the school, visiting the different rooms and meeting members of staff. Our focused text is *We're Going on a Treasure Hunt*. The pupils will learn to sequence and retell this story using words and actions. On **FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER**, to celebrate the end of this topic, we will have a Reception Pirate Day - the pupils can come to school dressed as pirates. We will have lots of fun pirate games and activities, and we will follow a special trail around school to find the hidden treasure!



[Please click on the link for more details about this topic.](#)

## THE EYFS FRAMEWORK

### 2021

The EYFS framework that all schools and settings have to follow was made statutory in September 2021. These national changes were made to better support all young children's learning and development. It is also the aim that the EYFS framework will better prepare children for the transition into key stage 1.

Please click on the links for more information -

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1170108/EYFS\\_framework\\_from\\_September\\_2023.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1170108/EYFS_framework_from_September_2023.pdf)



## WATER BOTTLES

Please could all pupils bring to school a water bottle, which they can access freely throughout the day. These bottles should **ONLY CONTAIN WATER**, not juice or fizzy pop, and please ensure your child can easily open and close their bottle. The bottle will be brought home at the end of every day for it to be washed out and fresh water replaced ready for the next day. Please ensure your child's name is written clearly on their bottle.

## RECEPTION LIBRARY DAY

Our library day is Friday. Commencing next week, the Reception pupils will visit our Reception library where they will choose one book to bring home. This book is to share and read for pleasure at home with an adult. All Reception library books have a red or yellow sticker on the spine. Please ensure your child takes care of this book and returns it the following Friday for changing.

## PHONICS, READING AND HOMEWORK

Phonics and reading are key priorities in school, and in Reception these areas are the main focus for our home learning. We will commence with our Reception reading programme in the coming weeks and will send you more information about the Reception procedures when we do so. Occasionally, targeted Phonics work may be sent home to consolidate learning that has taken place.

# What we are learning

## THE RECEPTION BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Over the next 6 weeks, we will be completing our on-entry observations and assessments which will help practitioners plan a curriculum which is tailored to your child's next steps. All children starting Reception will also take part in a reception baseline assessment (RBA). This is a national assessment that 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. This assessment became statutory for all schools from September 2021. This forms the baseline for primary progress measures, allowing schools to receive credit for the progress their pupils make throughout their time in primary school.

Please click on the links for more information about the Reception Baseline Assessment -

<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/information-about-the-reception-baseline-assessment/>

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment)

The privacy notice for parents of Reception children is available here:

[https://www.nfer.ac.uk/media/4554/rba\\_pupil\\_data\\_privacy\\_notice.pdf](https://www.nfer.ac.uk/media/4554/rba_pupil_data_privacy_notice.pdf)

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT - PE

In EYFS, Physical Development is one of the Prime Areas of Learning. This area supports pupils in developing both their gross and fine motor skills. To support in this area, we have a timetabled PE session in the school gym / hall. This half term the focus for these sessions will be - An Introduction to PE.

Our PE session will be **EVERY FRIDAY**, so please ensure your child has their PE kit in school. These will be kept in school and returned home at the end of each half term for washing. For safety reasons, earrings must be removed on PE days. Children will be unable to take part in this session if they are wearing earrings or do not have their kit or pumps.

## UNIFORM

The children have looked very smart this week in their new school uniforms. Please could we remind you that all clothing and items worn to school must be clearly labelled with your child's full name (including shoes, lunch boxes, water bottles etc). Please ensure they always bring a coat as they will have access to outdoor play every day.

If your child is unable to put on or take off their coat, or get dressed / undressed by themselves please practise this as much as possible at home.

## FRUIT



As part of the Government's free fruit for schools scheme, children in Reception have a piece of fruit as part of our snack time - if your child only likes certain fruit then please feel free to send in a piece of fruit or raw vegetable for them to eat. **FOR SAFETY - PLEASE ENSURE ANY GRAPES ARE CUT UP.**