

# Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery School



## A Guide to Reception

As your child is about to start in the Reception year at Westfield you are bound to have some questions. The aim of this booklet is to try to answer some of them in an informal but informative way.

Everyone at Westfield wants to make your child's time at school an enjoyable learning experience. If you have any concerns or questions at any time, please do not hesitate to speak to us. We are always willing to discuss any issues with you.

The Reception Staff

## **The Curriculum**

The Reception children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. There are seven areas of learning within the EYFS;

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

All areas are delivered through planned, purposeful play, which is child led with some focussed activities which children are encouraged to try.

The Reception classrooms have outdoor areas and suitable activities are set up for the children to use outside. Your child will need a pair of welly boots and waterproof outdoor clothes in school to use in the wet weather. These can be kept in a bag on their peg.

## **Assessment**

The Reception teachers are required to assess the children in each of the seven areas of the EYFS throughout the year. They will be assessed through observations of child-initiated play and a small amount of adult-led assessment. Parents will be informed of their child's EYFSP achievement at Parent/Teacher interviews and as part of the end of year report.

Evidence of your child's learning will be kept in a 'Learning Story'. We encourage contributions from your child's learning at home and would love to see photographs and examples of their achievements outside school.

## **A Typical Day in Reception**

8.40am	Doors are opened. Children come into class and settle at an activity.
9.00am	Registration.
9.10am	Carpet time. Whole class teaching session based on one of the seven areas of learning.
9.30am	Activities. The children will learn through a mixture of child-initiated play and small group adult-led activities. There will be a rolling snack time throughout the morning.
11.10am	Tidy up time.
11.15am	Carpet time. The focus for this session is usually phonics.
11.45am	Lunchtime. *Part time children are collected at the main entrance by their parents. The full time children will eat their lunch in the hall.
12.30pm	Lunchtime play on the playground / field.
1.15pm	Afternoon registration and carpet time. Whole class teaching session based on one of the seven areas of learning.
1.30pm	**Assembly
1.45pm	Activities. The children will learn through a mixture of child-initiated play and focussed small group adult-led activities.
3.10pm	Home time.

\*If your child will be part time, please speak to their class teacher about arrangements. Thank you.

\*\*Reception will join the rest of the school for Assembly in the spring and summer terms.

## **Bringing your child to school in the morning**

The Reception children come in with their parents through the gates next to the staff car park and directly into their classroom via the outside door onto the playground. All children should be in class by 8.50am. Once the children have put their coats and book bags in the correct places in the classroom, parents can help the children settle at an activity.

Parents are asked to leave by 9am and the register is taken. We understand that some children settle more easily than others but the Class Teacher and Learning Support Assistants will be in class to give the children support and reassurance. Although it can be distressing to leave a child who is upset, staff will encourage parents to leave as soon as possible as the children usually calm down once their parent has gone. Parents can always phone school to find out if the child has settled.

## **Collecting your child from school**

Part time children are met by their parents at 11.45am outside the main entrance door.

At 3.05pm the playground gates are opened and you are asked to walk around the school and wait on the Reception playground. At 3.10pm the teacher will open the classroom door and children will be 'matched' to their parents, carers and childminders. **Please let the school know if someone different will be collecting your child. We cannot let your child go with anyone we have not received permission for from you as their parent.**

We appreciate that you may occasionally be delayed, however, if you are going to be late, please telephone school to let us know. After school childcare is only available if pre-booked and this will incur a charge.

## **Lunch**

Your child can choose a school dinner (including a vegetarian, jacket potato or sandwich option), bring a lunchbox from home or go home for lunch. The menu for school dinners is sent out each term. School dinners are currently free for every Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 child at Westfield under the Universal Free School Meals for Infant Children government initiative. If you also qualify for *means tested* Free School Meals your child will receive additional support through the Pupil Premium fund.

If your child brings a packed lunch from home it needs to be in a manageable, named lunchbox. Please try to include healthy food, use as little packaging as possible and ensure your child can manage the items they have. You will need to provide spoons for yogurts etc. Please do not send sweets, glass bottles, cans or fizzy drinks.

## **Water Bottles**

The children should bring a named water bottle to school for extra drinks throughout the day. For health reasons, we ask that it is only plain water in these bottles, not squash, juice or flavoured water. Staff may pour away anything other than water and replace it with tap water.

## **Reading / Book Bags**

We ask that you buy a school book bag for your child. These can be purchased from Birds of Dereham in store or via the link on the school website.

Within the first half term, your child will receive a reading book, word game and reading record. The children are asked to read for ten minutes at home every day, and parents are asked to write a comment in their reading record. They may also borrow a book from the school library.

## **P.E.**

The children will do P.E. in the school hall or outside. They will need to bring a t-shirt, pair of shorts, trainers or plimsolls, and warm clothes for outdoor games in a bag to change into for P.E. lessons. School P.E. kits in house colours are available from Birds of Dereham. Please ensure that the items are named and that the children can manage them by themselves. Hair must be tied back and earrings and other jewellery must be removed on P.E. days. If earrings cannot be removed your child will have to be able to tape over them independently.

## **The Reception Staff**

### **Panda Class**



Mrs Mather (Class Teacher)



Mrs Cain (Teaching Assistant)

### **Koala Class**



Miss Murty (Class Teacher)



Mrs Rushby (Teaching Assistant)

### **Polar Bear Class**



Miss Raine (Class Teacher)



Mrs Paterson (Teaching Assistant)