



Welcome to Reception

Reception Teacher

Miss Wood

Reception Teaching Assistant

Mrs Croxford

Mrs Cooling (PPA)

Our Curriculum



Following the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum in Reception and the National Curriculum from Years 1 to 6, the school is able to provide a wide range of activities but places the greatest emphasis on making sure that all children are at a good level of literacy and numeracy by the time they leave our school at age 11. We value these basic skills because they form the building blocks of future learning. As mentioned previously, the curriculum is planned in a very integrated and applied way, where many subjects are practically linked in a topic based approach. ICT is seen as an essential part of all subjects.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

Prime areas:

- *Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- *Communication and Language
- *Physical Development

Specific Areas:

- *Literacy

*Mathematical Development

*Understanding the World

*Expressive Arts and Design

Each of these areas are treated with equal importance. Children will be formally assessed in these areas when they start school and then again at the end of the Reception year. We use an online recording and tracking system called Tapestry. Each child will have their own 'Learning Journey' which includes observations, photographs and assessments based on what they have been doing at school. Parents are able to access this at home and leave their own observations and comments.



Mathematics

In Reception, Mathematics is taught throughout the curriculum in a practical and exciting way. The children are encouraged to explore Number and Shape, Space and Measure in their independent choosing time as well as having focussed teacher led sessions. As they progress through the year the children will be given a Maths book to use in their focussed work. From Year 1 to Year 6, we use a mathematics development programme (Assertive Mentoring) which bases itself on pre and post testing procedures. Children are tested on their Year

Group's expectations and then areas of work are then planned from the results. In addition, within each area of maths being taught, smaller pre and post assessment tasks are completed by the children so that progress can clearly be monitored on a shorter term basis.



English

Writing

Writing, and the progression of writing, is hugely important. Children are given a wide range of opportunities to explore and develop their writing skills in Reception. We have a dedicated 'Finger Gym' to develop the children's fine and gross motor skills, this is integral when developing early writing skills. They are supported in how to use a pencil effectively. Children are given a wide range of opportunities to experiment with writing in the independent choosing time as well as focussed writing sessions with an adult. We have just embarked on using a programme called Active English, which focusses on grammar and punctuation, and the development of it, from Year R to Year 6. It is taught in an intensive and fun way, relating particular grammar elements to picture clues and actions. This grammar and punctuation is then applied in the children's writing.

Spelling and Reading

The basis of all our reading and spelling teaching is phonics. These are taught from Year R using a mixture of Ruth Miskin and Letters and Sounds. In Key Stage 2 the Ruth Miskin Get Spelling programme is used alongside the teaching of the National Curriculum spelling requirements. Within reading - comprehension of the text being read becomes an increasingly important part as the children move up the school.



Homework

We believe that children greatly increase their potential if they reinforce what they learn in school in their home environment. Children in Reception will begin to take home homework in the final term.

“Cheeky Challenges”: your child will be given a homework focus and allowed to extend, and reinforce, their learning in an open ended and individualised format. Please ask your child's teacher if you require more information about Cheeky Challenges. We encourage parents to take an active interest in helping their child at home.

In Reception we hand out Cheeky Challenges on Friday and would expect it to be handed in by the following Thursday

Reading: As little as 20 minutes a day can have a dramatic effect on your child's confidence and ability. Early on in Reception and KS1 we will send books home with your child. They will also bring home some 'coloured words' which we would like the children to learn without needing to decode them, once they are able to do this they will receive a certificate and move on to the next colour. As the children become free readers, further up the school, they will be able to choose their own book, but all children will have a reading record for you to sign and add any comments you may have. This will also be used to check the range of reading material your child is reading. Common words and phonic patterns are also included in the Reading Record to help you and your child.

For more information about what the children will be doing each week please see the weekly overviews on the school website.

Other Essentials

School Uniform

Our school uniform is smart and attractive and very popular with both children and parents. We have a policy in school not to allow jewellery. No necklaces, rings or earrings to be worn, apart from studs. This is largely a health and safety issue. If your child is to have their ears pierced, please can parents ensure that it is done in a longer school holiday as the children will have to be able to take them out themselves for PE and swimming. Staff are not allowed to do this for them. It is also against school policy for children to have dyed hair or hair styles that are out of the ordinary.

- Grey trousers (girls and boys)
 - Grey skirt or pinafore
- Polo shirt (jade green) with logo
 - Sweatshirt (navy) with logo
 - Cardigan for girls (navy)
- Grey socks/tights (white in summer)
 - Summer blue checked dress
- Smart black shoes - no trainers or boots
- Outdoor clothing- wellies, coat, waterproof trousers

SAFETY AND P.E

For PE, Games and Swimming lessons parents are expected to help their children observe the following simple but essential rules:

- * Plimsolls or bare feet in the hall (NOT training shoes)
- * Navy blue shorts and a vest or T-shirt should be worn
- * Long hair should be tied back at the nape of the neck with a soft hair band. (School will provide an elastic band where the child does not have a tieback)
- * No jewellery is to be worn for P.E lessons.
- * Earrings must be removed by the child. If this is a problem, please do not send your child to school in earrings on the day of the lesson
- * On a general safety principle, only one pair of earrings should be worn, one in each ear lobe, and any other body piercing or adornments should be removed before your child attends school

The School Day

The school day starts at 8.50 a.m. and finishes at 3.25 p.m. for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children and 3.30 p.m. for Key Stage 2 children.

All children have a playtime break of 15 minutes in the morning from 10.30 - 10.45 a.m. Lunch is from 12.15 p.m. - 1.15 p.m. Most children stay at school to eat their packed lunch/or hot meal provided by Farm Kitchens and are supervised by our experienced team of lunchtime supervisors.

Please provide your child with a filled water bottle each day. They can bring a healthy snack to eat during the day.

Key Stage 1 and 2 classes have a 15 minute break in the afternoon from 2.15 - 2.30 p.m.

Contact details

Headteacher: Mr Ian Wilkinson
Hutton

Chair of Governors: Mr Tim

Address: Deeping St. James Community Primary School, Hereward Way Deeping St James Nr Peterborough PE6 8PZ

Telephone: 01778 342314 **Fax:** 01778 348277