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The coming year will be very important for the class after having so much disruption over the last 18 months. Despite only teaching the children for a couple of weeks so far I can already tell we will have so much fun! Below I have listed some important things to remember as well as giving you an insight into the topics the children will be studying. If you have any questions, problems or issues please don't hesitate to come and see myself (Mrs Dutton), Mrs Moore or Miss Kirby.

A bit about the class teacher

I specialise in Early years and this is my third Reception class at Moorside. I have worked with the Early Years Curriculum for ten years.

A little bit about Reception

In Moorside we ensure that all children and parents feel welcome and involved in every stage of learning. Over the next few weeks the staff will ensure that children settle in to their new class and feel at ease in their new environment.

In Reception learning is taught through play based activities made fun and interesting for the children. The children will spend lots of time learning outdoors. We are continuing to develop our outdoor area to enhance the children's learning experiences. The children will also visit our forest school area on a regular basis. As we are a joint foundation stage there are integrated times with both nursery and reception to allow children to move freely between the two areas and also mix with the nursery children and staff.

All Reception children now participate in Statutory Government Baseline Assessment. Theses assessment will take place within the first few weeks of starting Reception.

Topics

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Happy, Healthy, Me

Festivals and Celebrations

People who help us

Wonderful World

Princesses, Pirates and Superheroes

Reading

On a daily basis children will read independently and as a group. Where possible children will read 1:1 with an adult, for some children this may be on a daily basis. All children receive a daily phonics lesson.

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If possible children should read at least three to four times a week at home. This does not mean that they are required to read the full book, just a few pages are fine. This enables the children to become more familiar with words, boosts their confidence and also helps them to make progress in their reading. Please fill in or tick in your child's reading record so that we know when they have read. Please ensure that your child brings their book bag in each day so that we can change their books and also we will be able to send any letters or work home in their reading bag.

<u>Homework</u>

After Christmas children will be sent home with weekly spellings to learn for their spelling test on Fridays. They will have a week to learn their spellings and the test will be a non pressured test.

<u>Punctuality</u>

The focus for this school year is for the children to arrive in school on time. If children arrive after 9:00 they will be marked as late in the register. Every morning the infants have phonics when they first arrive at school, so this is a

vital part of the day that they will miss out on if they are late. The school doors open at 8:45 every morning.

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Each child now receives a free breakfast each morning. They can choose from porridge, a bagel or cereal.

Children are given a piece of fruit each day for free.

Children can also bring in their own water bottles if they wish but we have a water dispenser in class which children can help themselves to.

School Lunches

All children in the infants receive a free school lunch everyday. If you would like to circle a menu and hand it in for your child if you require them to eat certain foods, please feel free to do so. If your child does not like their lunch an alternative option will be provided.

Key Workers

All children have now been allocated a key worker who gathers assessment information to assist the class teacher. They will also take on the role as the key nurturer, making the children feel as settled and as reassured as possible.

P.E. and sport

Our P.E. will be on a Monday afternoon; this half term we will have yoga. If possible, could the children please wear black shorts and a white T-shirt with suitable footwear.

Toys

As we have many interesting and exciting toys in class we ask that children do not bring their own toys into class as this causes upset if they are lost etc. We do however encourage children to bring in any certificates or achievements they wish to go share will class.

<u>Uniform</u>

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Please ensure that your child's uniform is <u>clearly labelled</u> to help us ensure they go home each day with the correct uniform. Children are responsible for looking after their own jumpers and cardigans and do have their own tray to put them in. However, if they have misplaced them they are easier to find if clearly labelled.

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Parental Involvement

In reception we greatly encourage parental involvement in all aspects of the children's learning. We hold an open door policy in which parents are free to come in at any time to speak to the teacher. Throughout the year there will be opportunities for parents to join their child for reading and phonics workshops and many more.

Your support is greatly valued by myself and the school as a whole. Please feel free to come and discuss any issues with myself, Mrs Moore and Miss Kirby at any time.

Thank you for all of your support.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Dutton

(Reception Teacher)