



EYFS (RECEPTION) NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2020-2021

WELCOME TO LIFE IN THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS)!

The EYFS Team would like to welcome all of our new Reception children and you, their families, to the start of your child's schooling journey here at Hayward's Primary School. It is very early days, but we are so proud of how the children are settling in already. They are making the most of every opportunity to explore their new surroundings both inside and outside, and we are enjoying getting to know them. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your enthusiasm and cooperation with the school visits last week. We really enjoyed them and they were a vital step in getting to know you and your child.

As you may or may not be aware, our EYFS leader Mrs Hockin will be going on maternity leave very soon, therefore Miss Sweetman will be leading the Unit this year. On Wednesday afternoons Mrs Bridget Merritt will teach within the unit to support the EYFS leader to manage the Unit's responsibilities. Mrs Merritt is an experienced and highly skilled EYFS teacher who has taught at Hayward's for many years. On a Thursday afternoon, Miss Sweetman and Miss Leat have their PPA time so reception will be taught by Mrs Merritt and Mrs Dixon.

We appreciate that there is a lot to take in in this first unit newsletter, but we wanted to make sure you had as much information as possible, as soon as possible. Please keep this letter safe and to hand so you know what is happening and when. We hope that you and your child/children will be excited by the upcoming events and that they provide a rich and meaningful start to what we hope is a fantastic first year at Hayward's!

CURRICULUM MAP

With this document, you will also have received the Curriculum Map for the Autumn Term. As in previous years, this provides an overview of content for each subject. This year it also gives you information about the 'Challenge Curriculum' topic that your child will be covering and detail of the **key knowledge** that the children will be learning. It would be really useful if you could expose your child to these key facts and support them with remembering these. Our new curriculum is explained online at <https://www.haywards.org/page/?title=Curriculum&pid=9> where you will also find information about the objectives your child will be learning in each of the seven areas of the EYFS curriculum.



IMPORANT DATES FOR THIS TERM



Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 4th November – Parent's Evenings

This is just to inform you when Parents Evenings will be. More details to follow nearer the time via the whole school newsletters or parent mail.



Friday 22nd November – EYFS Superhero Training day

As part of our 'This is me!' topic, the children will design and take part in a Superhero Training day. Unfortunately, due to current circumstances, we will be unable to have parents and carers join us for an open afternoon to share your child's success and learning during the term. Therefore, we will share lots of photos on Tapestry for you to enjoy viewing with your child/children. Information to follow nearer the time.



Monday 14th December - EYFS Christmas Party

To celebrate Christmas and the end of the children's first term at Hayward's, we will hopefully be able to hold a Christmas Party within the unit. This will be confirmed nearer the time, depending on the current Covid-19 situation.



Unfortunately, due to current circumstances, we will be unable to hold celebration assemblies where we invite families in to share their child's success. Therefore we will share photos of your child receiving their certificates in class and they will be able to bring their certificates home.

All dates can also be found on the school website and weekly newsletters also have key whole school dates published. By clicking on <https://www.haywards.org/> you can access these by clicking on News and Events – school calendar or access the newsletters on the same menu.



KEY LEARNING THIS TERM

MATHEMATICS

This term, we will be focusing on early number skills within 1 to 10, such as counting, ordering and recognising numerals and matching quantities to numerals. The children will also experience 2D shape and pattern as the term develops.

TOPIC

Our exciting topic this term is **This is Me!** We will find out all about ourselves, each other and the five Hayward's Heroes too!

LITERACY

In Literacy, Phonics and story sessions, we will be exploring environmental and letter sounds, having fun with rhyming, writing our names and of course, sharing lots of stories and books!

ALL OTHER EYFS CURRICULUM AREAS

Please refer to our Curriculum Map on the website for a breakdown of what we will be covering this term in each area of learning.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



- To support our 'This is me!' topic, we would like your child to bring in **one family photograph, up to 4 photos to show how they have developed since they were a baby (they will be making a time line of their life with these) and one photograph of their home (from the outside of the building) before Friday 25th September in a named envelope.** We would like to use these photos within the unit and within children's play to support their learning so please do not send in precious photos.



- Please could your child have a complete spare change of clothes and a few pairs of pants in a **named bag on their peg** in case of any toileting or other accidents. This will really support your child allowing them to have familiar clothes to change into if needed.



- We appreciate how exciting and important celebrating birthdays are in Reception and we ensure that they are recognised and celebrated during the day as part of our circle time routine. However, **due to a number of medical needs and allergies within the unit, we would ask that only sweets (not chocolate or cakes) are brought in to be shared/given out to the children when it is your child's birthday.**



- Throughout the day, **children are encouraged to drink water**, please ensure your child has a drinks bottle containing water. **It needs to be clearly named** and placed in the red or green area by the sink. Juice is fine for lunchtimes but it needs to be in a separate named bottle and placed either in their lunch box or on the lunch trolley if they are having school dinner.



- PE for Reception each week will be on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings.



Children do not need a PE kit, but please ensure long hair is tied back on these days and shoes are named as these will be taken off for most PE sessions.

- Please bring your child's book bag to school on a **Wednesday** where they can choose a new library book for the week. Please read this daily with your child. Once your child has learnt enough sounds, they will begin to bring home **decodable books** where they can apply their phonics learning and begin to read words and sentences independently. These books also need to be read daily, supporting your child to sound out the words and blend. **It is expected that all children share their reading book and/or another book with their parents/carers every day and that the date and book title is recorded along with your initials in the reading record book.**



- We provide one fruit snack for your child each day but any other snacks that you think your child will need (e.g. a small snack in the afternoon) need to be provided by you. **Due to medical needs and allergies within the unit, we would ask that you only provide fruit or vegetable snacks for these times please, no nuts.**



If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of the EYFS staff about anything in this newsletter please do so.

HOLA

A reminder that you can access HOLA (Hayward's Online Learning Area) from home:

<http://www.hola.education/>

This school based website will include links to websites which will support your children's learning in class. It has been updated over the holidays with resources for this term's learning.

TERM DATES

Term dates for the academic year 2018-2019 can be found by clicking on this link.

<https://www.haywards.org/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=48>

SCHOOL LUNCHES

The latest menu is published on our school website (<https://www.haywards.org/>); Parents/School Meals.

We hope your child enjoys this term!