

MARTIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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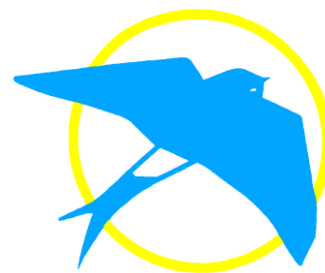
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WELCOME TO MARTIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to your new Reception class. We are delighted to see all the children have settled in so quickly and enjoying their first experience of school.

Arrival at school

In the mornings, we ask parents and children to wait outside in the large playground before a member of staff opens the Reception gate at 8.45am. Please then wait outside your child's classroom until a member of staff opens the doors at 8.50am. **Please do NOT allow children or their siblings to play with the equipment, including the climbing frame, as this is set up ready for our activities.** We ask parents and carers to leave by 09:00 at the latest. Now the children have settled we are encouraging the children's independence and would be grateful if parents and carers could stand well back and say goodbye before the doors are opened at 8.50am. This will enable the children to enter calmly without a crowd of people in the doorway. The children are able to find their own pegs and are encouraged to look after their belongings independently.

The Reception Team

RB – Habiba Bawumia, Debi Arnold

RM – Sarah McHard, Sonia Lapwood

RR – Julia Rundle, Jackie Shepherd, Ben Coghlan (Thursday)



Sharon Brosnan is our Early Years intervention Nursery Nurse. She works both in Nursery and Reception to support children's learning. Sharon will also deliver the Talk Stories workshop with parents on a Thursday morning for Reception and will hold a variety of 'parent surgeries' throughout the year.

Marilyn Wilkinson and Rose Palumbo-Rodrigues support all the Reception classes. They also both support the children during lunch time, so the children have a familiar face in the dinner hall.

Other Activities

On Thursdays the class teachers have planning time this is known as PPA. **Jeanette Adams & Ben Coghlan** will be delivery PE. She has requested that children have their hair tidied up and to please avoid wearing tights on the day. **Jackie Coghlan** will be teaching drama and movement activities with the children and **Sonia Lapwood** will teaching music. All three class rotate to each activity on this day.

Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is based on the needs and interests of each individual child. We observe 3 children from each class per week and use our observations to inform our planning. When it is your child's observation week, you will be informed and invited in to discuss their progress. This will happen in the Autumn and Spring terms. At the end of the Summer term, you will receive a report detailing your child's progress in relation to the Early Learning Goals for the end of the Foundation Stage.



Outside classroom

The children will have 'free flow' access to the outside classroom daily both in the mornings and afternoons.

Why do children in Early Years need free access to the outside?

- **Accurate assessment** - Children act differently outside and therefore you may only get accurate observations when observing outside.
- **Healthy body and brains** - There is more space to move, fresh air, vitamin D, peace, and mindfulness all things children need to develop and grow.
- **Increased Self-Esteem** - Outdoor play gives children new skills; raises their self-esteem, develops their divergent thinking skills and collaborative skills. These skills are an excellent basis for classroom learning.
- **Characteristics of Effective Learning** –They are able to play and explore, learn actively, develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.
- **Awe and Wonder** - There is a sense of freedom that Children feel outside because they feel like they are in charge of what they do outside. There are things that children will discover outside that cannot be discovered inside sparking awe and wonder.
- **Access to outside is part of the curriculum** - The reasons above are why the Statutory Framework (2017) states that children must be given free access to outside.

Support at home

Please refer to the home learning guidance for activities and ideas to support your child's learning at home. We will also provide children's 'Next Steps' and ideas on your children's Tapestry observations. After the October half term, staff will regularly post a video with information about the current topic and how you can support your child at home.

Reading

Individual reading books will be sent home in the week beginning 14th October. Your child will be allocated a reading day. This is displayed on the classroom door as well as on the front of their yellow book. Please ensure reading books are returned on these days. We encourage you to write comments in the yellow reading journal. If

you lose or damage a book, we ask for a contribution of £5 to cover the cost of a replacement. Please keep the books, flashcards and yellow reading record in the plastic zippy wallet to protect them.

Starting on Friday 27th September, parents/ carers are invited into class every Friday morning between 8.50 and 9am to come and share a story with their child.

Muddy Mondays

Every week the children will be going over to the field on Monday mornings. We will be exploring the woodland area, finding minibeasts, looking at various plants and trees that grow there and Tristan Green (Site Manager) will lead some 'Forest School' activities with us. The children will be learning about the changes in the seasons and it will also give them a chance to engage in more physical activities in a large open space. Please make sure that you bring in a pair of wellies and a waterproof jacket for your child.

School Library

Each week Reception will visit the school's library to borrow books. The cost of replacing lost or damaged books is £5 or you can replace the book of the same title.

RR – Monday

RM – Tuesday

RB – Wednesday

Class Pet

Each class will have a soft toy in a rucksack to send home with one child per week. This is to encourage the children to ask questions about the world around them, to develop their investigation and language and communication skills. The rucksacks will be sent home with a guide giving ideas and an explanation. We ask you to carry out activities over the weekend and to return them by Wednesday of the following week.



General information

It is very important to **label ALL** pieces of clothing as well as shoes and school bags.

Ensure that your child brings a fully labelled P.E kit in a labelled bag, and that this is in school on **Thursdays**. However, for ease, we advise that this stays at school and is taken home every half term to be washed.

Please provide your child with a labelled **water bottle**. The children can then help themselves to water during the day. This bottle needs to be taken home and washed on a daily basis.

Each half term we have an activity fund of **£ 0.50p per week (£3.00 or £3.50)** which helps us provide cooking ingredients, craft resources and playdough etc. for the children each week. Please give the money to a member of staff in your child's class.

We also ask for a box of tissues from each child once a term, please.

We do celebrate the children's **birthdays** in Reception and are happy to hand out **healthy treats** such as raisins on your behalf. However, as a Healthy School we do not allow birthday cakes or sweets/biscuits etc. We also do not hand out party invitations, as it is upsetting for those children who are not invited. Please organise this outside of school.

Scooters

Once your child is at school all day, scooters should be stored in the shed in the main playground. **Please do not leave them in our outside area or attached to the fence.** You can then collect them at 3:25pm.

Donations



We are always grateful for:

- Recyclable materials for modelling
- Newspaper
- Cereal boxes
- Washed yoghurt pots/plastic bottles/lids
- Craft materials, e.g. buttons, zips, cloth, sequins

No egg boxes please

Dates for your diary

Friday 4th October - EYFS Phonics coffee morning (9am) and EYFS brunch on the field (10-11.15am) (Please bring a healthy snack)

Monday 7th October- Meet the Reception team (9am, Repeated at 3pm)

Friday 18th October- EYFS Welcome meeting (9am)

Monday 21st October- Friday 25th October – half-term break

Monday 28th October – INSET day (No Children. School closed for staff training)

Tuesday 29th October – return to School

Wednesday 30th October– 9am -Diwali celebration in Reception (please join us if you celebrate Diwali)

Wednesday 6th November/ Thursday 7th November– Parents evening

Saturday 7th December - 12pm - 3pm – MHSA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 17th December 9am – Reception Christmas Celebrations for parents

Thursday 19th December – last day of term for pupils. School closes at 2pm.

We look forward to working with you and your children. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to ask any member of the team. The best time to catch us is at the end of the day once all the children have been dismissed.

