



Reception Autumn 1 Newsletter



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 21st September - PC Lou visiting Reception children

Tuesday 22nd September - School Photos

Wednesday 23rd September - Flu vaccines for those who returned forms to Manx Care

Thursday 15th October - Local community walk

Wednesday 21st October - Nop-Tu-Naa stay and play (2.00 - 3.00)

Tuesday 15th December - Christmas Nativity (10am)

MARVELLOUS ME

During the first few weeks of Reception, our main priority is helping the children settle happily into their new environment, routines, and school life. We want every child to feel safe, secure, valued, and ready to learn as they begin their exciting school journey.

Our first topic is "Marvellous Me and My Community." Through a range of engaging activities, the children will explore what makes them special and unique. This provides a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know each child better, including their interests, likes and dislikes, talents, and the important people in their lives.

As part of this topic, we will also begin to learn about our wider community and the people who help us. The children will explore different roles within the community and develop an understanding of how we all work together to help one another.

READING & PHONICS

We are delighted to see that so many of the children have been enjoying sharing their reading books with you at home.

This week the children have begun learning their phonics through our Monster Phonics programme. Phonics is the method we use to teach children how letters and groups of letters represent sounds, helping them to develop their reading and writing skills. Monster Phonics is a fun and engaging approach that uses colourful monsters to represent different sounds and spelling patterns, making it easier for children to remember and apply their learning. As the children become ready, they will begin bringing home books containing simple CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words, such as sat, cat and pin. These books will help them practice blending the sounds they are learning in phonics and build their confidence as early readers.

If you have any questions about your child's reading journey or how you can support them at home, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Reception team.

STAY & PLAY

On **Wednesday 21st October**, we would like to invite you to join us for a Hop-Tu-Naa themed Stay and Play session. The session will run from 2:00pm-3:00pm.

The way children learn has developed and changed considerably over the years, and we feel this will be a wonderful opportunity for you to see what learning looks like in Reception. You will be able to spend time exploring and engaging in a range of activities alongside your child, giving you an insight into how they learn through play and hands-on experiences.

There will be lots of exciting activities to take part in together - some of them may even be a little messy! We hope you can join us and look forward to welcoming as many families as possible.

OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY WALK

As part of our learning about My Community, we are planning to take the children on a walk around our local area on **Thursday 15th October at 9.30am**. This will provide a wonderful opportunity for them to explore their local environment, identify places within the community and discuss how these places are used. It will also help to develop their listening skills and introduce some basic road safety awareness. The walk will be weather dependent and, should we need to rearrange it, we will notify you of an alternative date. We may need a few extra helpers to join us on our walk. If you are available to help, please let a member of the Reception Team know. The children will not need anything additional for the walk. They should come to school in their usual uniform and bring their snack and lunch as normal.

SNACK

This week we have introduced 'rolling snack' to the children. This means that, rather than having a designated snack time, the children can choose when they would like to enjoy their snack during the morning or afternoon session.

At the start of the day, the children place their snack and water bottle in our snack area. When they feel ready for a snack, they can independently make their way to the snack table, sit with some of their friends and enjoy their food together. Rolling snack is a lovely way for the children to develop their independence and confidence, while also building friendships and social skills. It has been wonderful to listen to the conversations the children have already been enjoying together around the snack table!



We would just like to take this opportunity to say how incredibly well the children have settled into their new routines and environment. We are so proud of them and all they have achieved already!

We are really excited for the half term ahead and look forward to lots more learning and exploring.

Any questions do not hesitate to ask.
Mrs Whittaker & Mrs Kerton