

Welcome to The Infant Curriculum Letter Autumn Term first half 2021

Teacher: **Miss Wilson**

On Tuesdays **Mr S** (Sports Coach) will also teach the class during PPA time (planning, preparation and assessment time). **Mrs Wittich** will also teach RE and music each Tuesday and PE on a Wednesday afternoon.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Infant Class!

I hope that you and the children have had a well deserved break over the summer. The children have returned to school excited to see their friends and have made a fantastic start to the year so far. I'm looking forward to the year ahead and I know the children are too.

Please find below details of our curriculum for this half term.

We will be actively trying to demonstrate our values of:

Independence by selecting our own resources in and around the classroom to help us learn in the way that suits us best.

Respect by following the daily routines of the class and school, being kind, polite and helpful to one another, and building effective working relationships with each other.

Aspiration by encouraging each other to take risks and challenge ourselves to reach our goals.

Resilience by reflecting on our learning and choices, developing a growth mindset and using our mistakes as learning opportunities.

English: We will begin our writing lessons this year with a unit on stories with predictable phrasing. We will explore the books *Farmer Duck* and *Once There Were Giants*, both of which were written by Martin Waddell. We will then move on to learning about labels, captions and lists in Year One and explanations in Year Two.

Reading: Children will be reading regularly at school and will also take part in guided reading and comprehension activities. **As an important part of your child's home learning, they should be reading at home every day.** The children should be reading with or to an adult. When they are reading, please make use of the activities and questions in the covers of the book. In their home school communication book, you will find a sticker explaining the skills that they should be working on as part of reading at home. By reading the book and working on the skills, the book will be kept for

two days. Comments on their reading and skills should be recorded every day in the Home School Communication book.

The children will also be bringing a library book home with them. This will be a book of their choice to enjoy at home. Please remember to return the book in order to be able to choose another one.

Spelling: Spellings will be given to the children every Friday and tested the following Friday. Spellings will either be focussed on a specific 'rule' or on a set of statutory words. **Weekly spelling words will be sent home in the Home School Communication books.** There will be daily phonics and spelling lessons in school taught either by myself or Mrs Wittich.

Maths: This half term we will cover a number of units in Maths this includes understanding and using positional language, estimating, place value and measurement.

Times Tables: Children in Year Two will have times tables to learn. These will be set and tested every week. The activities will be set on *TT Rockstars*. This can be accessed online on a laptop or a tablet. Year Ones will begin learning their timetables soon. You can get them ready by helping them to count in twos, tens and fives from zero.

Please ensure your child completes Mathletics activities each week. These activities will be set weekly on stickers in the Home School Communication book. Parents are expected to sign the stickers to show completion of tasks.

Science: This half term, our Science topic is *Animals including Humans*. Some of the activities we will be learning include identifying, naming and describing a variety of common animals.

Topic (History): Our topic is called *Ready for Anything*. This history-based topic will look at famous historic explorers. One of the explorers we will be learning about during this half term is Matthew Henson. We will be learning what it means to be an explorer and the achievements explorers made. Throughout our History lessons we will be adding significant historic dates related to our topic to our History timeline in class.

Art: This half term we will use the work of Eric Carle as inspiration for our work depicting some of the environments which our explorers travel to. Eric was famous for his use of layering to create his illustrations. We will use collage and montage using a variety of materials including printed images and digital art.

DT: We will be learning about mechanisms in our D&T learning and specifically exploring wheels and axles. We will explore how wheels operate and evaluate a range of products with wheels and axles. We will be designing, making and evaluating a vehicle for our explorer.

Computing: We will be using Chromebooks in our Computing lessons. We will be learning how to stay safe online as well as exploring Purple Mash in our computing lessons. There will also be opportunities during our computing lessons for children to develop their touch typing skills.

PE: On Tuesdays, the children will be working on their throwing and catching skills. On Wednesdays in gymnastics we will be focusing on following sequences of movement both on the floor and on the apparatus.

If your child has earrings, you will need to either provide medical tape to cover them or if possible come to school on PE days without earrings. This is part of the expected health and safety procedures of primary PE requirements.

PSHE: Our Jigsaw topic this half term is: Being Me In My World. This will focus on being part of a class team; rights, responsibilities and democracy; rewards and consequences; and group decision-making. Year One will be having their Jigsaw lessons with **Miss Wilson** and Year Two with **Mrs Rozier**.

R.E: We will find out about festivals and worship and the meanings behind them in Judaism and Christianity and compare what we discover. We will also hear some religious and moral stories, asking questions about them and finding out about the traditions they come from.

Music: In music, we will be enjoying, appraising a range of Hip Hop songs. We will focus on following the pulse, rhythm and pitch. At the same time, we'll have a good dance!

French: In Infant class, we will begin to learn some words in French including numbers. The children are excited to learn French.

Forest School: We will be starting our Forest School sessions on the 13th of September. This outdoor learning will take place on Mondays. The outdoor learning activities will also link to our 'Ready for Anything' topic which will enhance the children's understanding of the topic. Please ensure that children come to school dressed in clothes appropriate for outdoor messy learning. We will be outside whatever the weather!

Talk Time: Talk Time is a new session in our school, aimed to support the children in building the skills and confidence to talk to an audience. Every term, the children will prepare a 5-minute presentation at home. The presentation can be on any topic of interest to the speaker. The children can use resources such as pictures, objects or Google slides to support their presentation. There will then be a chance for the audience (the rest of the class) to ask questions and then feedback on the presentations they see. The dates the children will be taking part in Talk Time this term are:

Monday 4th October - Isabelle
Tuesday 5th October – Imogen
Friday 8th October – Jesse
Monday 11th October - Jessica
Tuesday 12th October - George
Friday 15th October - Tom
Monday 18th October - Henry
Tuesday 19th October - Isabel
Friday 22nd October - Isla
Monday 8th November - Edith
Tuesday 9th November - Ruby
Friday 12th November - Lily
Monday 15th November - Ronnie
Friday 19th November - William
Monday 22nd November - Dilan
Tuesday 23rd November - Millie

It is important that your child has a named water bottle in school every day. This will need to be taken home at the end of the day, washed and refilled.

All children should have a pair of wellington boots which can be kept in school in the class boot box outside.

School uniform: Please ensure you name all items of clothing (including footwear) clearly. Any earrings should be small plain studs. Please make sure socks and tights are in line with our expected uniform.

Home learning: Please check the Google classroom and stream regularly for announcements and home learning. Instructions around home learning will continue to be explained in the Home School Communication book. This book should be used and tasks completed, signed and commented on five times a week. We will monitor the home learning completed and use your comments to help assess progress.

There will be a chance to discuss any questions you might have on **Thursday 16th September at 2:45** in the Infant classroom. You will also be able to access the meeting via Google Meet using your child's G Suite account if you can't make it in person.

If you need to contact me at all, please write a message in the Home School Communication book, arrange a meeting via the office, or send an email to a.wilson@reed.herts.sch.uk. Of course, I will also be on the playground each morning and afternoon. Please note that emails may not get a response straight away, and any emails sent in the evenings and over a weekend/holiday may not be answered until the next school day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Wilson
(Infant Class Teacher)

Infant Class - The week at a glance	
Monday	Daily Reading, Forest School
Tuesday	Daily Reading, PE with Mr S
Wednesday	Daily Reading, PE with Mrs Wittich
Thursday	Daily Reading , Library Day
Friday	Celebration Assembly, Mathletics set, Times tables set (for Year 2 only), Spelling learning set , Spelling test, Phonics game set, Daily Reading