



*Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy*



*Reception Newsletter*

*September 2017*

*Autumn 1*

## Reception Newsletter - September 2017

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to the first half term of your child's Reception year at Streetsbrook. The children have quickly settled into their daily routines and we hope their time in Reception will be both enjoyable and rewarding.

We would ask for your continued patience when the children arrive in the morning. We are very proud that the children are now entering their classrooms independently and respectfully request that you do not enter the classroom in the morning and pass any messages to the staff on the door.

### Learning in Reception

The children will be learning about six main themes during their time in Reception. These are as follows:

Autumn Term, 1 <sup>st</sup> Half-term:	AHOY There!
Autumn Term, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half-term:	Inside Out
Spring Term, 1 <sup>st</sup> Half-term:	On Top of the World
Spring Term, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half-term:	Stones and Bones
Summer Term, 1 <sup>st</sup> Half-term:	You Are What You Eat
Summer Term, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half-term:	Spots and Stripes

On the last page, we have included an overview of the learning objectives that the children will be covering in the first half term in order to develop appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding.



### **Timetable Update**

Staff are currently updating their timetables, and once they are completed, copies will be put on to the school's website. In the meantime, we wanted you to be aware of the children's PE and swimming lessons. Children in R1 will be having PE on a Tuesday morning and will swim on a Friday morning. Children in R2 will be having PE on a Friday morning and will swim on a Tuesday morning. Swimming lessons start week commencing 11 September.

### **Swimming Lessons**

For reasons of hygiene and for the efficiency of the filter system, we require all children – boys and girls to wear a swimming cap; you may purchase one from the school office for £1.50. Please note that jewellery (including earrings) may not be worn for Health and Safety reasons as even small items can block up our filter system. Please remember that all items, including swimming costumes, hats, bags and towels need to be clearly marked with your child's name.

As you will be aware, we do require help with changing the children from both classes and with collecting and returning the groups to their classrooms. If you are able to help with swimming sessions, ideally we need 3 helpers per session and ask that you add your name to the rota via Doodle Poll.

Those parents that help are required to obtain a DBS clearance certificate, applications are processed through the school office, please speak to a member of staff.

***Without this vital support the lessons cannot go ahead – so please sign up, even if you are able to help for just one week!***

### **Drinks during the School Day – Reminder**

We ask that your child brings water to school for their mid-morning drink as they will then be able to have access to this at any time during the school day, even during lesson times.

### **Parent Helpers in School**

We are always very grateful for the support we receive from parents, and the help given by those of you who work alongside us in school is greatly appreciated and most beneficial to the children. For those parents who are interested in helping us in this way, there will be a brief meeting in the school hall on Friday 15 September at 9.00am which will be led by Mrs Butlin. The meeting will last approximately 1 hour. In order to help us with our planning please let us know, via the relevant slip at the end of this letter, if you will be attending this meeting. Even if you have helped in school before, we would still be grateful if you could join us.

### **Messages for Class Teachers**

If your child is going home with a friend, or another person is collecting your child, on the day, please ensure a message is written in the 'Class Message Book' located at the classroom door.

If your child has a dental or medical appointment, we shall need an absence note completed, these are available from the school office. We also ask that you inform the class teacher, through the 'Class Message Book'. Thank you

### **Permission for School Trips**

Whenever we arrange for children to travel out of school on an educational visit we always notify parents in advance, giving full details. Last year, children in Reception visited Wythall Transport Museum. In order for your son/daughter to be able to be included in these types of visits we should be grateful if you would complete the consent form that was given to you in your starter packs and return it to school as soon as possible.

### **School Attendance & Late Arrival**

At Streetsbrook we place a high emphasis on the importance of regular and punctual school attendance. We believe through good attendance at school, children will achieve higher attainment, have better opportunities and establish good habits that will support them throughout their lives.

The Government expects us to:

- Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence (less than 90%)
- Ensure every child has access to full-time education, to which they are entitled, and
- Act early to address patterns of absence

To support us to secure good attendance for all of our children and to address concerns regarding any child's poor school attendance and punctuality, we are working with Central School Attendance and Welfare Service Ltd (CSAWS).

Your child may be referred to a CSAWS Attendance and Welfare Officer if their attendance and punctuality is causing concerns. They will then contact you by phone, letter or a home visit to discuss the school's concerns and how attendance and punctuality can be improved.

As you may already know, parents can be fined for taking their child on holiday in term time and I need to let you know that the government has shortened the period of time for payment of a penalty notice issued in relation to poor school attendance. As of 1 September 2013 the fine has been £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days, and £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days.

If your child arrives at school late (after 8.55am) then attendance will be marked with an 'L', signifying late arrival.

Our current Attendance Policy is available to view on the 'School Policies and Documentation' page of the school website.

### **Privacy Notice - Data Protection Act 1998**

A copy of the Privacy Notice & Fair Processing notice is available to read on the front page of the website, it also includes a link to the DfE and SMBC websites.

### **ParentPay**

All new Reception parents to the school (not previously in Nursery) will by now have received their ParentPay registration letter, once you have registered you will be able to access ParentPay to see your child's account and therefore if any fees are to be paid, i.e. school fund contributions, school trips, childcare fees & evening meals etc, you will now be able to make payment. Previous Nursery parents can continue to use ParentPay in the same way. If you're not already registered, you will need to contact the office.

### **Voluntary Contributions (School Fund Contributions 2017-18)**

Voluntary Contribution amounts for this term are as follows:

Weekly: £1.50

1<sup>st</sup> Half Term: £10.50

2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: £10.50

Full Term: £21.00

Whole Year: £58.50

### **Universal Free School Meals**

As you are aware, the Universal Free School Meals means that your child is entitled to a free hot lunch every day. When your child goes on a school trip, children will be provided with a school packed lunch, and you will be asked to choose a sandwich filling. Thank you to those that have returned the dietary forms – the kitchen computer system informs the catering staff of any dietary requirements you have made known to us. As always, lunch menus are available on the school website.

### **ParentPay – Meal Payments**

For those children that attend Streetsbrook Childcare after school club, and that choose to have a hot tea – these meals are processed and charged via ParentPay – the service is now known as 'Meals in Childcare', we do ask that your account be kept in credit at all times.

## **Cool Milk Scheme**

If you have not already joined this scheme and you would like your child to start having milk at school, you need to register with Cool Milk. You can register on line [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) or by phone 0800 142 2972.

## **School Nurse Suggests**

I hope that a happy and healthy summer was enjoyed by everyone, as the children begin the new school year I would recommend using this as an opportunity to check up on their general health, are they up to date with their immunisations, have they been to the dentist recently and what about the optician. It is recommended that all children have a regular vision check at the optician, which is a free service and invaluable in detecting vision difficulties and monitoring the health of the eyes.

Please remember that you can contact your school nurse at any time via the clinic base or through your child's school if you would like any support or advice.

## **Bicycles & Scooters**

Whilst we actively encourage the children to lead a healthy lifestyle, which includes walking or cycling to school, in order to avoid any injuries to others all children must dismount from their bicycles/scooters outside the school gates and push them across the playground.

## **Car Parking in Ralph Road & Prospect Grange**

If you travel to school by car, please be considerate when parking as we wish to maintain good relations with our neighbours. Parents should not park on the pavement or block resident's drive-ways.

## **School Website and use of Children's Photographs**

As you will be aware, the school has its own website which is regularly updated. Please find time to visit the website and see the wide range of information it gives you, including many of the exciting activities the children are involved in here at Streetsbrook.

We hope that you will find the site useful in a number of other ways:

- All letters sent to parents are entered on the site
- Diary Dates and Term Dates can be found on the site, along with a range of other information

One of the ways in which we make the site interesting for both yourselves and the children is to regularly share with you some of the work and activities in which they are involved. We have a digital camera and take photographs of the children working in school and during school trips etc.

We will regularly update this information during the children's Reception year – the children playing music, taking part in Physical Education, dressing up, cooking, taking part in special events and activities and so on.

Obviously, you will be able to print off these photographs at home and we hope you are happy for your child to be included in this exciting opportunity. Whilst many parents and children have access to the internet at home, we are aware that some of you do not so would like to remind you that free access to the internet for all parents is available in the school's ICT Suite.

Should you **not** wish your child's photograph to be included on the website, please contact Mrs Stead in the school office. Also, please remember that any messages can always be sent to school by e-mail, our address being [office@streetsbrook.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@streetsbrook.solihull.sch.uk)

## **External Clubs/Activities**

We are delighted that the school is used extensively by the local community. As not all parents will be fully aware of the opportunities this offers, we will shortly be uploading the list of activities that take place, along with contact names and telephone numbers to the website. We are happy to provide this information as a reference, but obviously it is your responsibility to check on the suitability of the providers and the activities on offer.

Visit: <http://www.streetsbrook.co.uk/parents/parents.html> - and click on



[Private Clubs and Activities  
here at Streetsbrook](#)

*Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy*  
**DIARY DATES - AUTUMN 2017**

Day	Date	Time	Activities
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
Monday	4		<b>INSET DAY - School Closed to children in School &amp; Childcare</b>
Tuesday	5		Children return to school Nursery & Reception – staggered intake
Friday	8		All Nursery & Reception is as normal
Monday	11	15:15	Swimming commences for R, Y1 & 2 Childcare Magical Maths commences for 6 weeks – R1 classroom
Tuesday	12		Football Club Commences
Wednesday	13	All Day	Year 1 Trip to Black County Museum
Thursday	14	15:15	Animated Gymnastics Club commences
Friday	15	09:00 15:15	New Parent Helper Meeting led by Mrs Butlin Animated Dance Club commences
Monday	18	15:15	Magical Maths - R1 classroom
Tuesday	19	AM & PM	Photos – All School/Individual & Family
Monday	25	15:15	Streetsbrook 60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations Week Magical Maths - R1 classroom
Wednesday	27	19:00	Year 1 Curriculum Meeting for Parents
Thursday	28	AM 19:00	Macmillan Coffee Morning – run by PTA (tbc) Year 2 Curriculum Meeting for Parents
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
Monday	2	15:15	Magical Maths - R1 classroom
Friday	6	14:15 12:00	Parent Partnership Meeting Eco Team Meeting & School Council Meeting
Monday	9	15:15	Magical Maths - R1 classroom
Tuesday	10		Harvest Festival
Friday	13	12:00	Eco Team Meeting & School Council Meeting
Monday	16	15:15	Magical Maths - R1 classroom – last one
Tuesday	17	09:00-10:00 16:00 onwards	Reception Reading Workshop for parents Parent Consultations (no football club)
Wednesday	18	09:00-10:00	PANTS Special Day Reception Reading Workshop for parents
Thursday	19	09:00-10:00 16:00 onwards	Reception Reading Workshop for parents Parent Consultations
Friday	20		<b>INSET DAY - School Closed to children in School</b>
<b>23 – 27 October HALF TERM</b>			
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
Wednesday	8	18:30-19:30	Year 1 'Supporting Phonics & Writing at Home' Workshop for parents
Thursday	9	09:00-10:00	Year 1 'Supporting Phonics & Writing at Home' Workshop for parents
Friday	10	12:00 09:00-10:00	Eco Team Meeting & School Council Meeting Year 1 'Supporting Phonics & Writing at Home' Workshop for parents
Friday	24	PM	PTA Christmas Fair
Wednesday	29	18:30-19:30	Year 2 Mathematics Workshop for parents
Thursday	30	09:00-10:00 17:30	Year 2 Mathematics Workshop for parents Full Governing Body Meeting
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
Friday	1	09:00	Parent Partnership Meeting
Tuesday	5	13:00-15:15	Year 1 to St James Church – Journey to the Stable
Wednesday	6	14:15	Reception Christmas Performance
Thursday	7	10:00	Reception Christmas Performance
Friday	8	AM & PM 12:00	Christmas Performance – Nursery Eco Team Meeting & School Council Meeting
Wednesday	13	AM	KS1 Christmas Production – Dress Rehearsal
Thursday	14	18:15	KS1 Christmas Production – Evening
Friday	15	Afternoon	KS1 Christmas Production – Day
<b>Tues</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>Last day of Term</b>

# Academic Year 2017-2018

## Term Dates

### Autumn Term 2017

- Term Starts Monday 4 September 2017
- Half Term Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October 2017
- Term Ends Tuesday 19 December 2017

### Spring Term 2018

- Term Starts Wednesday 3 January 2018
- Half Term Monday 19 February - Friday 23 February 2018
- Term Ends Thursday 29 March 2018

### Summer Term 2018

- Term Starts Monday 16 April 2018
- Half Term Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June 2018
- Term Ends Tuesday 24 July 2018

### INSET DAYS

- Monday 4 September (Childcare also closed)
- Friday 20 October
- Wednesday 3 January (Childcare also closed)
- Monday 16 April
- Thursday 3 May (Childcare also closed)

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### *Meeting for Parent Helpers in School*

Child's Name: .....

Class: .....

I/We will be attending the meeting for Parent Helpers in school on Friday 15 September at 9.00am.

Signed: .....