



Autumn Term 2023 'I wonder how we are super?'



Welcome to Reception

Welcome to Reception! The children have all managed their first week incredibly well and we are so impressed with how well many of them are settling into school life. Please remember starting Monday 11th September, all of our Reception children will be in school full time. Our doors open at 8:45am and close at 8:55am. Collection time is 3:15pm.

Topics

In Reception we do not have set topics that are planned for the year. Instead, we work with the children to plan topics based around their interests and where they help to take the topics. To begin we have started 'I wonder how we are super' topic as lots of the children have shared their love of superheroes. To finish this topic, we will focus on the key story 'Super Bat'.

Our Garden

Outdoor learning is highly valued here at Eastfield. Children in Reception have access to our garden during their self-initiated learning time everyday. All the activities set up in the garden help to develop the children's learning across our curriculum. Please remember to bring in wellies and a coat for your child as we can access the garden no matter what the weather is doing. You are also more than welcome to send in waterproof trousers for those extra rainy days.

At drop off and collection times, we ask that the children do not use the equipment around the garden, especially items such as the bikes. It can get extremely busy during these times and we need to ensure that pathways and walk ways are clear for families to move around safely. At the beginning of the day, many of the activities are set up ready for us to introduce to the children and at the end of the day much of the equipment will be packed away to protect it from the weather. We are more than happy for children to access the wooden climbing frame and swing for a short time, whilst they are waiting.

Information Sessions

On Thursday 14th September at 9am, we will be holding our first Information Session. This will be a phonics focused' session. Eastfield are excited to be introducing a brand new phonics scheme this year and so we will be sharing information about what the children can expect from their phonics lessons, how we will be teaching phonics and how you can support your child with their phonics and reading at home.

Throughout the year, we will be providing our Early Years parents and carers with other information sessions with different areas of focus. The second information session will be on Tuesday 26th September at 6:30pm. During this session, we will be sharing more about the day to day life of being in Nursery and Reception, how we share your child's work and the different areas of learning that we cover.

Stay and Learn Sessions

Following on from a parent/carer information session, we often run a Stay and Learn session. This is where parents and carers are invited into Rabbit and Squirrel class to join in with activities. These activities are based on what was covered during the information session. Activities are set up across the classroom and adults can sit with the children, play games, read books and share the activities set out.

Our first Stay and Learn session will be on Tuesday 19th September at 2:30pm. This will be a phonics stay and learn session, where you will be able to join in with phonics based activities and games.

Reception Baseline Assessment

For the last few years, the government have asked all schools to deliver the Reception Baseline Assessment. This has to be carried out during the children's first 6 weeks of schooling and so we will be administering these over this half term, when we feel your child has settled into school. The children work with their class teacher and we ask them some questions relating to maths, literacy and language. The children see these activities as games. These assessments are then referred back to at the end of year 6 to help build a picture of their progress. Due to schools not receiving any formal feedback on each child's assessment, we continue to work closely with your child to help us build a picture of them as a whole and know where each child needs to move with their learning.

Class Emails

We would love to hear all about some of the learning experiences and activities our children are having at home. This might be getting a certificate from a sports club, learning how to ride their bike, joining in with some reading at home etc. Please feel free to email in photographs with some brief notes or just an explanation of what your child has been busy doing. Staff will then print these out and pop them into your child's learning journal.

Please note that this email address is only for observations, please do not ask questions etc as we will not be able to respond.

Rabbit's email address is rabbit@eastfield.cambs.sch.uk

Squirrel's email address is squirrel@eastfield.cambs.sch.uk

Key Dates

Thursday 14th September, 9am - Reception Phonics information session.

Tuesday 19th September, 2:30pm - Phonics Stay and Learn session

Friday 22nd September - Jeans for Genes day + ESA quiz night

Thursday 26th September, 6:30pm - Life In Early Years information session

Monday 2nd October - Individual photographs

Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th October - Parents evening

Thursday 19th October - Film Night

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>During the first half term we will be learning all about our school rules and routines like how we have lunch and what to do on the playground.</p> <p>We will also be spending time getting to know our classmates, making friends and developing our understanding of turn taking.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Physical Development</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>We will spend some time working on our gross and fine motor skills to help us be ready to develop our letter formation. We will take part in activities that include scissors, nuts and bolts, threading, using pegs and mark making tools to help build up our muscles in our hands and arms.</p> <p>In our garden, we will also have climbing, balancing and co-ordination activities such as stepping stones, large construction and sports equipment.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Communication and Language</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>During our first half term in Reception, we will spend lots of time working on taking turns to talk and listen. We will be encouraging children to talk to each other during their learning to explain what they are doing and then to listen to what their peer has to say and respond appropriately.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Literacy</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>During this half term, we will begin our phonics and literacy sessions. To begin our phonics sessions, we will work on our listening skills to ensure we are ready to listen carefully to the sounds we can hear in words, particularly at the beginning of words. We will then begin learning our Phase 2 sounds.</p> <p>During our Literacy sessions we will be reading books based around the topic for that week. We will be thinking about how stories are structured, predicting what might happen and discussing how characters are feeling and why.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mathematics</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>Reception children will have a mathematics session every day. We will start by looking at the number system. We will do lots of counting forwards and backwards, recognising numbers and beginning to order them.</p> <p>We will also begin investigating different 2D shapes, naming them and start to look at some of their simple properties.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Understanding the world</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>Within our 'Super Selves' topic we will investigate all about ourselves, thinking about what makes us special, our senses and what we can and can't do yet. We will learn about what parts of our bodies do i.e. eyes, legs, arms and how we can stay healthy.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Expressive Art and Design</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Autumn 1</u></p> <p>In this half term we will start by learning how to access the paints, what we can use to make marks and what materials and media we can use to make different things. We will explore the construction areas both inside and out and find out how we can connect and combine different mediums. To link in with our 'All About Me' topic, Reception children will look carefully at themselves and make portraits of themselves and their friends.</p>		