



Old Palace Reception Newsletter Autumn 1

Assistant Head- Mrs Rahman

Teachers – Miss Begum (RB) Mrs White (RW)

Support Staff – Miss Drake, Miss Gomez, Mrs Rahela, Ms Campbell

Below is some key information for your child's year group. Please take time to read the newsletter with your child and keep it in a safe place.

Welcome & Thank You!

A warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families, it has been an extraordinary transition process this year, despite the restrictions, all our pupils have settled into their new setting and adapted to the classroom routines very well. The pupils have shown immense independence, social and emotional resilience in the whole process of settling in, to their new school

We would like to say a big thank you to the parents for your support in following the new safety procedures. We know there have been lots of changes and we are very grateful for your cooperation in following these. Dropping off and collecting children on time is a big help and we really appreciate parents sharing information when children display symptoms, as this helps us to keep everyone safe.

Winter Weather

As the weather starts to get colder it is important that your child brings a warm coat every day. This is also needed in case of rain. Also as windows have to be open to provide good ventilation, please make sure that your child has a jumper that can be worn in class.

Sugar Swaps

We would like to remind parents that we ended the tradition of children bringing in sweets/ chocolate to celebrate their birthday. Instead families can send in fruit, but this is not possible at present due to our COVID-19 safety procedures.

Flu Jab

The children's flu vaccine is safe and effective to combat winter flu viruses. This year, we are able to offer the flu nasal spray to all pupils attending Old Palace Primary School, Rec- Year 6. This will take place on **Friday 13th November**, and will be administered by trained staff from the Local Primary Care Trust. Nearer the time, we will send out letters, alongside consent forms. Please read them carefully and return the consent forms to your child's class teacher.



Absence

It is very important that your child attends school when they are able to. Even missing one day, means they may miss out on key learning, which then makes it more difficult for them to understand when they return to school. If you have any particular concerns regarding attendance we can offer support from the School Social Worker or the School Attendance and Welfare Advisor. The guidance below helps to explain when child should be kept off school, otherwise they miss out on important learning

If your child has symptoms of Covid, they should not come to school for 10 days, and should get a test. Everyone else in the household should stay at home for 14 days. If the test is negative, self-isolation can end. If anyone else in your household has Covid symptoms, they should get a test and everyone else should stay at home for 14 days. If the test is negative, self-isolation can end.



If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell

But they don't have:
a high temperature

a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP





Reading

Children have been bringing home a story book for reading for enjoyment and a Phonics book to help support reading skills such as, decoding and word recognition. Book bags must be brought in every Friday for changing books.

No Book bag, no new books sent home!

Keywords

Please ensure you read the keywords with your child and help them to read, spell and write them. The keywords sent out each week are the ones the teachers have been focussing on during the English lessons, it is helpful if they can be reinforced at home to allow children to further practice them. During reading try and ask them to spot any of the keywords in the text you read. Overall there are 45 keywords for Reception and it is expected that children become confident in reading and writing them by end of Reception. Keywords are also changed on Fridays. All children will be assessed on their keywords at the end of term.

Maths

Children are learning number recognition 1-10, number bonds to 10 and counting 1-20. They have been singing number rhymes and songs to aid their counting and using Numicon to help support number sets. In addition, children have looking at environmental shapes and linking this to 2D shapes. Children have been exploring geometry in various forms in their play and mathematical learning exploration.

Assessment

Over the last few weeks, the teachers have been carrying out formative assessments on the children. These assessments are to identify children's level of knowledge and development in all key areas of learning including language skills, reading, maths and social skills.

Lunch

HEALTHY SCHOOL PACKED LUNCHES

We are committed, as a school, to healthy lunches. Could you please ensure that your child's packed lunch contains healthy options – there are a wide variety of choices available. Please do not include chocolate bars, crisps or biscuits. Thank you for your support.

Uniform

Please ensure your child has the correct school uniform on. Please refer to the school website for the uniform guide. Children are able to wear jogging bottoms as long as it's dark grey or black. You have been given a school logo badge to put on sweatshirts/cardigans. Any additional ones required can be purchased at a cost of £1 per badge, please speak to member of EY staff or email the school. Please also remember to send your child a set of spare clothes to keep in school, for the unexpected instances where they might need to change themselves.

Text Alerts

Currently, Good News Slips, Red Cards and Green Medical Slips will be sent via text. Please ensure we have the correct contact details.

Topic

This half term, our topic is 'Myself'. Children have been learning about ourselves, family tree and special people. They have been exploring the 5 senses and making links to the body parts associated to the body. Children have been discussing their likes and dislikes and building friendship skills.

Homework

Reception will receive a homework pack at the beginning of each half term. The pack contains home learning to complete and explore with an adult. The homework packs include work on the current topic, English based on the core text, Reading keywords and Mathematics and Handwriting/fine motor control



All the topic activities and homework packs can be found on the school website: <https://oldpalaceprimary.co.uk/our-learning/homework>

Reception times

After half term reception opening times will be 9am to 2.45pm. Parents will be able to drop off and pick up from Bruce road entrance. Siblings can be collected together at the same time as reception dismissal. Please let staff know if you would like this arranged.

Emotional Well-Being

Teachers received training on spotting signs of emotional distress at the start of term and the children were given an opportunity to talk about the experience of lock down when they first returned to school. Last week we held our annual Feelings Week, where children were taught how to recognise different feelings and learned techniques to help them manage uncomfortable feelings, for example using mindfulness and breathing exercises. Please ask your child to talk to you about what they learned. Our school therapist is also holding a weekly drop in session for any KS2 child who feels the need to talk to someone about their feelings.

