

# Alwyn Infant School

Sept 2016

## Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome to all our reception children and their families. We are very pleased with how the children have settled into the daily routine and are managing the school day well. The curriculum we follow is the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which is a play based curriculum, where the children learn from investigation and their own interests. Whilst talking to the adults and children around them they are testing their ideas and learning. We have focused activities every day which include phonics, literacy and maths. We also share many books, including wordless books.

## Tissues

We would be grateful if each family could donate a box of tissues to Reception. These donations generally last for the whole year and are much needed as the seasons change.

## Photos

Please remember to bring in two photographs that your child can talk about. We suggest a family outing, or a pet, or a photo of your family. These photographs will be kept and stuck into your child's learning journey.



## Clothing

Please make sure all clothing is labelled clearly and your child knows where you have marked their clothing. We already have a number of new jumpers with no names in them.

We ask for each child to bring in a spare set of clothes, including socks and underwear.

We play outside every day, so please make sure that your child brings a RAINCOAT to school.

Hall Time - Each week we have a session in the hall. Children remove their shoes and socks for this activity. Please encourage your child to put on their own shoes and socks at home, as some struggle to do this and need some practice.

## Packed Lunch/Water bottles

Water bottles should be filled with water and clearly labelled. **No juice** Please do not put **sweets** into lunch boxes, as we are a healthy school and would like to encourage the children to eat healthily.



### Absence

We expect regular attendance. However if your child is absent please write a short note stating why he/she was away, this is required for the school records.

### Head lice

This is always problematic in schools, but can be reduced if you are able to check your child's hair each time after washing.

### Parent helpers

If you are available to help, please speak to a member of staff as it is necessary to carry out a mandatory police check on all volunteers in school and a simple application process also needs to be completed. This is an excellent opportunity to see what happens in your child's class and an extra pair of hands is always welcome!



### Reading

We are playing many games around early reading and believe that a successful reader has a strong foundation in early literacy skills. Books are available for you to share with your child in the cloakroom. Please enjoy these books with your child and talk about the characters, how they may be feeling and what is happening. Children should never feel pressured to 'read' a book, only encouraged to share a book!



### Handwriting

In reception we teach pre-cursive handwriting. Please see the attached sheet for more information on how to form letters. We have also attached a sample of how we will be teaching your child to write his/her name. As your child becomes interested in writing, please practice their name with them.

### Junk Modelling

Please save all your old boxes, yoghurt pots, milk bottle tops and any quality packaging which can be used to make models. We use junk modelling every day so please start bringing your old boxes to school, instead of putting in the recycling bin. Sorry we cannot use toilet rolls

Finally we are able to recycle many items in reception, from old mobile phones, to old laptops. If you have any items you think we may be able to use, please speak with a member of staff.

Thank you  
Kind Regards

The Reception Team  
Mrs Harris, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Snapes and Mrs Sakal

