

Dear Families,

Welcome to Reception! We are so pleased with all of the children and how well they have settled in, especially as this is a long week and such a big change for them! They have been amazing and thank you all for your help in the mornings settling them in!

This book is your "Home Learning Journey". In Reception we learn mostly through play and build up our phonics and maths steadily through the year. As a part of our learning, we aim to involve you as parents/carers as much as we can.

To help your child, we send home a weekly letter which gives you advice on what we have been learning about in school that week. This will include the **Sounds that they have learned in phonics**. We have also started to give children a **weekly activity which is completely optional**. We like to set fun tasks that you can do together at home that build on their learning in school. I will say that this is completely your choice to do - if your child is tired or you have home commitments, we do not expect this to be a chore.

Most importantly, at the back of this book, we have stuck **key words to learn at home**. We like to set the children a fun challenge to learn the words on the chart, which we then check in school and give the children a certificate when they can read those words.

Please note, these are not spellings at this stage, they are common words to be learned by sight. If your child gets stuck, playing games with the words, or writing them on post-it notes is a great idea to get them going. The words start with the "Teddy" chart and change as they learn the words. Also, these are to be learned over time, so please do not worry that they need to be done straight away.

In our experience, by making these learning opportunities fun and stress-free the children enjoy the learning process and experience lots more success!

We will also send you home a **reading book** to enjoy together and change it on a weekly basis. Please rest assured that all children begin to read at very different rates, so please do let us know if your child is reading more or less than we are sending home as it can take us a couple of weeks to find out what the children are capable of as we get to know them.

Finally, we really enjoy hearing about all aspects of your child's learning in your Home Learning Journey. If you wish to stick photos and provide us with your own observations of what your child is doing at home, we love to see them.

Thank you again for a wonderful week and please do come and talk to any member of our team if you have any worries or concerns about the week ahead.

Many thanks,

The Reception Team