



Stamford Green Primary School



26 September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reception Newsletter - Week Beginning 26.9.16

We would like to start by saying a big 'well done' to all of the children for a brilliant first two days of full-time school. They have had such a busy two weeks and have really impressed us with their energy, enthusiasm and positive attitude. They are fantastic!

This week, we will be starting our first theme of learning, **Fantasy Lands**. Throughout Stamford Green our 'themes' mean that we can bring the curriculum to life by linking it to the children's interests, real-world experiences or, as in this case, a love of stories and using our imaginations! The first stop on our tour of Fantasy Lands will be the house of The Three Bears. The children will be listening to, and retelling, the familiar story of Goldilocks as well as having the opportunity to participate in a range of activities from drama and singing to making porridge! The theme will focus on fairy tales from now until half term so look out to see which ones the children will be learning about in upcoming newsletters.

One important element of storytelling in Reception is the use of 'story boxes.' These are boxes (usually an old shoe box but any, similarly-sized box will do) that the children can use to gather together the elements of a story and then to retell the story either on their own or as part of a group. The examples below are story boxes of Little Red Riding Hood and Goldilocks and the Three Bears:



During the coming weeks, the children will be working on 'whole class' story boxes as we look at a different fairy tale each week. So for example, this week, each child in each class will contribute to their class's Goldilocks story box in some way (be it decorating, making a model, finding three bear finger puppets etc.) and everyone will have an opportunity to play with it and use it to retell the story with their group. Story boxes are fun things to make with your child at home, too. Just pick a favourite story, decorate the box accordingly (e.g. a castle for Cinderella or a farm for Chicken Licken) and fill with appropriate models, small toys, finger puppets etc. We would love to hear about any story boxes that are being made at home and are happy to receive emailed photos but please do not send any story boxes in to school just yet! Once the children are 'story box-making experts' we will be asking each of them to make a special story box for our next theme, which starts after Christmas (so watch this space!)

During phonics lessons, will be learning about 't' and 'p' this week. Maybe your child could sing you the Jolly Phonics songs and actions for the new letter sounds that they are learning? Please ensure

that their small zip-up wallet is in their book bag on Friday to receive their new sound cards (the whiteboard, pen and rubber can stay at home for your child to practise their writing with).

Our maths focus this week will be on counting accurately and recognising numbers 0 to 20 and beyond.

PE lessons are starting this week, so please send in any PE kits (or bits of PE kits) that you may have at home. **RD and RV's PE day is Tuesday and RM and RW's PE day is Wednesday.** If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that they are not wearing their plain studs to school on that day. Please also ensure that your child has a pair of trainers in their PE kit not plimsolls as these can be uncomfortable on hard surfaces such as the playground and trainers offer more support.

Another uniform essential is having a waterproof coat with a hood in school **every day.** It may be that your child is wearing a coat to and from school but, if not, please send in a coat such as a mac in a sack that can stay on their peg in the event of rain. We go out in all weathers both in the Reception play area and on the playgrounds.

Before the YR children go out to the playground at lunchtime, they eat lunch together and have the hall all to themselves for a bit. They leave the hall together as this means that they know where their friends are and don't have to look for them. The children have the option of staying in their YR playground area (by the hall doors) or going to the main playground. On Friday some of the YR children were the first to use the newly opened trim trail (by the main playground) and they loved it. The children enjoy having the playground all to themselves for the first part of lunchtime as KS1 are in the hall eating and KS2 are still in lessons. All of the adults wear hi-vis jackets so they can be easily spotted by the children if they need help. In addition to this, our Y6 Buddies have been doing a super job at starting games and helping the YR children find their way round. The teachers collect the children from the playground at 12.50pm and take them back to class for the afternoon.

Finally, a reminder that our valuable 'Settling in Meeting' for YR parents' is on Tuesday 4 October at 2.15pm (RM and RW in the Studio and RD and RV in the Hall). It would be lovely to see as many of your there as possible. The School Book Fair will also be running from 3.00pm until 3.45pm on Tuesday and Wednesday in the library so do pop in to browse the books on sale.

Many thanks,

The Reception Team
Mrs McCarthy, Mrs Dryland, Mrs Vidal and Miss Wright



Messages from Mrs Druce

Mrs Edden

After over 20 years' service Mrs Edden is retiring at the end of this week. As you can imagine, the educational landscape has altered significantly over this period of time and the number of children she has helped through all the changes is phenomenal. So all that is left for me to say is a very heartfelt thank you and enjoy not setting your alarm clock! Mrs Edden has chosen the music that is playing throughout the school day this week and we have a day of surprises planned for her and the children. The plans will have to stay top secret but it will be a day to remember for a special lady that has helped so many of us over so many years.

Circus

We hope you are looking forward to Thursday – please see the separate letter being sent home today re final details for the event.

We are holding the Circus to raise funds to buy new laptops for the children to use. Our current

laptops are over seven years old and are nearing retirement. If you would like to help and can spare some time between 2.30pm and 5.45pm to help the PTA and school staff set up and BBQ, it would be appreciated. In return we will make sure that volunteers get to sit with their families whilst watching the circus. Please contact Mrs Wheatley if you are able to help - info@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk

Come and Play

Don't forget that tomorrow we are holding our first Come and Play session for children aged between 0 - 4 years. Feel free to drop in anytime between 9.00am -10.30am. Admission is £1.00 per family and includes refreshments as well as lots of exciting toys and activities. We look forward to seeing you!

Messages from the Office

We have a new Education Welfare Officer this year, Donna Byrne who will be in school over the next couple of weeks checking on attendance and lateness. If your child has less than 90% attendance she will be discussing this at her meeting and a letter will be sent home. She will also check children whose attendance was less than 90% at the end of last year to see if there has been an improvement. She will also check children that have persistent lates, again looking at last years to see any improvement.

Census

Reminder – If you have not filled in the Google form with regards to your child's nationality and place of birth, the deadline for this is Friday 30 September. This information is required by the government for the census on the 6 October.

Lost Property



Please could you keep an eye out for a pair of size 5 Startrite girls' shoes that have gone missing. Please contact Mrs Wheatley or Mrs Thorpe info@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk if you find them, thank you.