

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

MALTBY REDWOOD
Reception



Welcome to the Autumn 1 edition of the '**Saplings Class**' newsletter. You will find lots of information about the curriculum, how to help your child at home and any other notes. If you have any questions, please ask the class teacher. Our current learning journey is: '**What makes me a ME?**'

Curriculum outline

Communication and Language Development Our focus this term will be encouraging children to share their own interests and knowledge about themselves, their body and how it works. We will be thinking about ways in which we can keep healthy and the people that can help us when we are unwell. Our role play and small world area will also enable children to retell both new stories and facts whilst recreating their own experience.

Physical Development We will be developing our fine motor skills through daily 'dough disco', and during carefully planned mark making and writing tasks. We aim to support all children in Reception to hold their pencil correctly using a tripod grip as this will support them to become fluent writers by the end of the year. We will spend lots of time outside developing our gross motor skills and managing our own risks when enjoying our climbing apparatus, outdoor sports area and when exploring our forest school. During PE this term we will focus on the functional skills children need to develop in order to participate in sports, gym and dance.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development We will be developing our turn taking and partner talk, whilst learning the importance of effective communication and understanding that others may have different views and experiences to our own. But this is ok, as we are all unique and we should celebrate this. We will be looking at our similarities and differences in appearance, families and interests and talking positively about the things we are good at; building our self-confidence to present to others.

Literacy (Reading and Writing) We will share 3 fiction texts this half term, 'What makes me a me?', 'Our class is a family' and 'Topsy and Tim go to the Doctors'. A non-fiction text will be used when exploring dental care. We will be developing our story language and vocabulary with the help of 'Grandma Fantastic' and use new vocabulary when creating our own sentences and narratives in play. Children will be encouraged to anticipate events in the stories and develop their inference when using illustrations to think about how the characters may be feeling. We will introduce children to line guides to support letter formation when writing, and practice building, holding and writing simple captions. All children will take part in daily phonics.

Maths We will begin exploring children's knowledge of 2d shapes, patterns, and numbers to 5, whilst completing the Reception Baseline Assessments. We will focus on the skills of matching, sorting and identifying numerals and representation of numbers to 3 this term using White Rose Maths.

Understanding the World: We will be exploring our own history when thinking about our family timelines and about the way in which we grow from babies to adults. When exploring ways to stay healthy, we will also be exploring different occupations such as Doctors and Dentists and how they can help us. We will begin our science learning this term by completing investigations around how germs are spread and observing changes over time.

Expressive Arts and Design: Our main art focus this term will be sketching and using a pencil effectively to create self-portraits for our class community display. Children will also be creating their own X-Ray art.

Helping your child at home

- Help your child to write their full name and practise recognising numbers to 10 in different environments, outdoors, around the home and when out and about
- Help your child to form the numerals 0 – 10 as this will help them when recording in maths
- Download and complete 1 minute maths APP from White Rose Maths to support fast recognition of numbers to 10.
- Help your child practice recognising the set 1 RWI sounds they are learning in school using the QR codes provided in readiness for blending to read.
- Talk about everything- their day at school, our current topic and class story, their favourite activities in the classroom, school meals, anything! And please share any special events with us.
- Encourage children to hold their pencil correctly when drawing and writing
- Encourage children to dress themselves in a morning and put on and zip up own coats.



Notes

- Please remember to put names in all clothes, including PE kit.
- PE will take place EVERY **Thursday PM** so please remember full PE kits
- Please be reminded that **water only** is permitted in labelled water bottles.
- Please remember your child needs a pair of wellies for Forest Fridays.

Key Dates:

- Reception Baseline Assessments will be completed during the first 3 weeks of term, whilst we get to know your child.
- 18/09/26 - Friendship day in the forest.
- 24/09/26 - Stay and meet the dental team and our new school tooth brushing initiative – 2.30-3.00pm
- WC - 19/10/26 – Literacy Festival
- 14/10/26- Parents Evening
- 23/10/26 – INSET day

