

HELPING YOUR CHILD IN RECEPTION

Autumn 2026

Thank you for inviting us into your home during our home visits. We feel that the time spent talking to you about your child was invaluable. This has really supported the children's transition into school and we are very proud how quickly they have settled!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Initially this term, our focus will be to ensure that your child is happy at our school and they feel excited and motivated to learn. We will discuss how to behave and respect others and spend time learning our classroom rules. We will encourage the children to become independent within the classroom environment and to remember our school rules: be ready, be respectful and be safe.

Mathematics

All our early maths will be based on practical activities and experiences. We will initially be concentrating on oral counting, counting objects, subitising small amounts, and developing a deeper understanding of numbers to 5. We will look at how numbers can be represented in different ways, such as fingers on a hand, pictures, dots on a dice/domino, five frames and ten frames, Numicon plates and as numerals.

Literacy

Our focus for this term will be to teach the initial letter-sounds also known as phonemes. This knowledge will not only support your child's reading, but their early writing skills too. We will be looking at how to hold a pencil effectively and the correct letter formation with an emphasis on name writing. We will be reading a range of stories, singing nursery rhymes and playing letters and sounds games. Your child will be encouraged to enjoy reading and listening to stories and will have access to books to share with you at home.

Topic

The Reception Curriculum is very holistic and our topics will change regularly following the children's interests. Our first topic will be 'This is Me!' where we will be finding about each other. After the half term break, our topic will be 'Awesome Autumn' with an emphasis on seasonal changes. The children will explore the weather and changes we observe in nature. Over the term, we will learn about celebrations such as Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas to help the children further understand the world and the community around them.

Helping your child at home



Please encourage your child to share books with you in a relaxed and fun way. The more opportunities your child has to share their reading practise book with you, the more confident they will feel about reading it with us in school. We also ask that you encourage your child to practise the letter-sounds and tricky words that they have been taught in school. These will be put in their reading pack every Thursday or Friday alongside their new book. We will be encouraging children to be independent and look after their belongings. Please help your child to practise independent skills such as putting on their jumper, zipping up their coat and putting on their shoes!

General Information

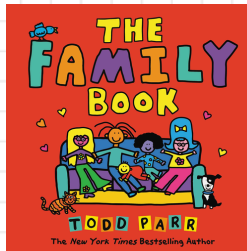
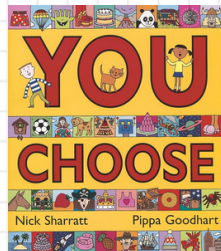
Please remember to bring your child's PE kit in so we can hang it on their peg. Our P.E. days are Wednesday for Shrimps and Neons and Thursday for Oysters. Forest School for all Reception children is every Friday. Please make sure ALL items of clothing are labelled.

All children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One have a piece of fresh fruit as part of a Government initiative. Many children also have milk. This is free until your child turns five. We also ask each child to bring in a water bottle to keep them hydrated throughout the day.

If your child is unwell please ensure you record their absence through the Arbor app. Alternatively, you can phone the school office on the morning that they will be absent.

Finally, we will always find time to discuss any matter concerning your child or answer any queries you may have. Your child is our priority and our aim is to work in partnership with you.

A sample of books we will read in the Autumn Term



Contact

Miss Parks (Shrimp Class/EYFS Lead) hermione@cradlehill.e-sussex.sch.uk
Miss Howell (Neon Class) gemma@cradlehill.e-sussex.sch.uk
Miss Osborne (Oyster Class) isabelo@cradlehill.e-sussex.sch.uk

