

Reception

South Kensington and Sloane Square Class



Autumn Term 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Reception!

During the first half of term we will be working on the topic of 'Ourselves'. The topic for the second half of term will be 'Nursery Rhymes'.

We will be teaching these topics through the 3 prime areas of development listed below:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional

Also through the four specific areas:

- 1) **Literacy:** beginning our journey of learning how to read and write
- 2) **Expressive arts and design:** exploring and using an array of media and materials, and being imaginative.
- 3) **Understanding the world:** learning about and discussing different people in our community, the wider world and technology.
- 4) **Mathematics:** focusing on developing our understanding of numbers, shapes, space and measurement.

These specific areas of learning are practiced both indoors and outdoors. The children will have access to the outdoor area throughout the day. This space includes a sandpit, muddy kitchen, construction area, fine-motor activities and much

more! Our carefully structured programme of activities encourages and guides all children to select appropriate, interesting and challenging tasks. We extend their learning opportunities through discussion and discovery. We encourage independence, supporting the children in selecting and structuring learning opportunities. We take care to ensure that children use their time constructively and are always ready to help children who find it more difficult to settle with a task.

Your child will be very active and involved during their time at school. You can support your child's learning by taking the opportunity to talk to them about the things they have done. From time to time they will bring work home. Please show an interest in their creations and talk about them.

At home you can help your child's progress by:

- Continuing to provide them with opportunities to play alongside others
- Encouraging them to try out their ideas
- Encouraging them to be polite and helpful
- Encourage them to develop greater independence when un/dressing
- Talking to them to develop, encourage and promote their conversational skills
- Joining the local library, visit it regularly and reading with your child frequently
- Talking about letters and sounds
- Singing nursery rhymes and songs together
- Help them to count simple objects as they play
- Go on outings together and talk about the things you see and do
- Drawing pictures together, cutting them out and colouring them in
- Encourage them to join clubs and develop their interests

Important dates for the diary

- We will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' welcome talk on Tuesday 3rd October at 9.15am, where we will give you some more information about the Reception curriculum and what to expect this year.
- We will also be holding an 'Introduction to RWI' which is the phonic programme we follow in school, on Thursday 7th December at 9.15am.
- On Tuesday 17th October it is our 'International Dress Up Day' and food tasting.

Things to remember:

Book Bag:



Reading at home is a valuable experience and can have a huge effect on your child's progress. It is very important that these are taken home daily and books are read every night. Could you please write a comment or sign your initials to indicate you have read with your child.

P.E Kit:



Please make sure your child's kit is in school all week including plimsolls.

Jewellery:



It is school policy that no jewellery should be worn in school with the exception of stud earrings.

Class fund:



We ask for a donation of £1 each week which is used to help fund classroom



activities (cooking ingredients etc). This should be brought to school on Monday.

Lateness:

Please ensure that your child arrives in school ready to be taken into class for 8.50am. The gate is locked at 8.55 a.m. After this time you must take your child in via the main entrance. Please ensure that we know exactly who your child is leaving with at the end of the day.

Miss Sketchley and Miss Shannon.