



W E L C O M E T O
A M I X E D
R E C E P T I O N /
Y E A R 1 C L A S S

S E P T E M B E R
2 0 2 4 / 2 0 2 5

TEACHERS IN RECEPTION/YEAR 1

- Welcome to new parents for Reception children starting in September 2024
- Welcome to returning parents for Year 1 children



Mrs Richards



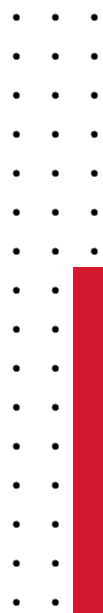
Miss Davies



Mrs Braine

HOW WILL A MIXED YEAR GROUP WORK?

- Teaching a mixed reception and year 1 class offers a *multitude of benefits* that foster an enriching learning environment. The dynamic nature of this setting cultivates independence, as children learn to navigate *diverse tasks and take ownership of their learning*. Consistency thrives through familiar routines and relationships, nurturing a sense of stability and support.
- Establishing *robust systems and routines* in September is vital for the smooth functioning of a mixed reception and year 1 class. As the year 1 children are well-established, they bring their experience and knowledge to hit the ground running. Their *confidence and familiarity* with the classroom environment enable them to *support, encourage and prompt their younger peers*. This inter-age interaction creates a powerful dynamic, as the reception children look up in awe at their older peers, seeking guidance and inspiration on a daily basis. The younger ones learn from their older counterparts at every opportunity, observing their behaviours, language and academic skills. This symbiotic relationship not only fosters a *sense of community and belonging*, but it also accelerates the reception children's growth and development.



INFORMATION FOR RECEPTION STARTERS

Reception children will be in full time from Wednesday, 4th September and all children should be in their correct uniform.

Our school day : 8.40am gates open and 3.20pm is the end of the school day.

Reception children are able to attend breakfast club which starts from 8am.

Milk will be provided for free up until the child's 5th birthday and everyone has daily access to fresh fruit for snack time.

Children should come into school every day with a labelled drinks bottle

As a school, our communication is mainly done through 'Parent Mail'. This is also where you need to pre order your child's lunch options if they are having hot meals. If you do not have access to this then please let the office know and they will sort it.

New Bookbags to hand out



UNIFORM

All children, are expected to wear our school uniform.

Children are expected to wear a white polo shirt, school jumper (or a plain dark blue jumper) with dark-coloured bottoms.

Uniform needs to be ordered online through the Price & Buckland website. [Woodlands Academy \(pbuniform-online.co.uk\)](http://WoodlandsAcademy.pbuniform-online.co.uk)

ATTENDANCE



It's important that your child attends school and arrives on time. As a class we monitor our class attendance as we work towards winning the attendance trophy each week! Any late marks do count towards our class attendance mark dropping.



If your child is absent due to illness, you need to phone school before 9am on the first and every subsequent day of absence. If we do not receive this, we will make a 'first day absence' call to find out why your child is not in school.



Leave of Absence -Any holidays taken during term time will be marked as unauthorised.



CONTINUOUS PROVISION

What is Continuous Provision?

- All activities available each day that provide continuous and constant opportunity for discovery across all areas of the EYFS Framework which allows all children to explore their individual interests, start their own learning projects or consolidate their learning at their own pace and freewill - wherever their starting points. These may be adapted throughout the year to allow progression and are linked to our topics for each term.
- Children are given the opportunity to free flow between the indoor and outdoor areas - whatever the weather. The outdoors supports physical development on a much larger scale. Children can access resources such as mud kitchens, climbing equipment, large sand pits, as well as a range of large loose parts to create an endless range of open-ended activities.
- Reading and writing can be promoted throughout all areas of your provision. Words and numbers are everywhere!

TAPESTRY FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

- For Reception children, we use an online observation tool called Tapestry. Once you are all set up, you will be able to see photos, text observations and videos of what your child has been up to within school.
- Tapestry is an app that we use to record observations of your children. This includes photos and videos.
- It can also be used by yourself to show us things your children have done or achieved at home. We really enjoy seeing what your child has been doing!
- We value quality over quantity, and you will find observations record WOW moments.
- If you have not got a login for this app, then please let me know and I can get one set up for you.



PHONICS



- We use Unlocking letters & Sounds to teach Phonics which provides a lot of support towards your child's learning.
- Phonics for Parents meeting - date to be confirmed. This is where we will go through Phonics terminology, how to pronounce the phonemes correctly and go through a typical lesson that your child would be doing. Please do come along!
- Towards the end of Year 1 (June 2025), every child will take part and a statutory phonics screening test. With the children we call this a 'Phonics Quiz'. It comprises of a list of 40 words that children read one-to-one with a teacher. The list is combination of both real and made-up words. Your child will be familiar with this because we already use 'nonsense-words' when teaching phonics in school, sometimes we call them 'alien words' or 'fake words'.



READING

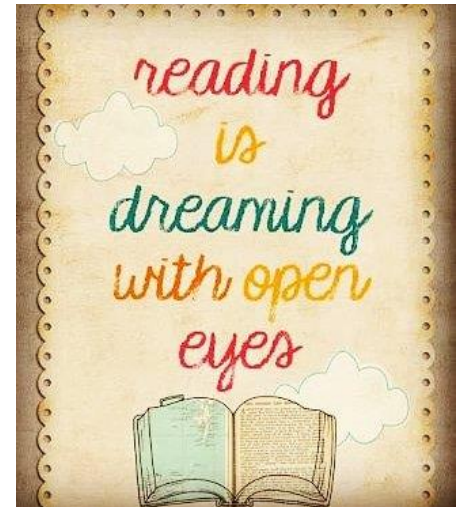
- For Reception children, they will be given a book and reading diary once they have learnt a handful of Phonemes and is beginning to pick up the skill of segmenting and blending. This is usually towards the end of the first term.
- For Year 1 children, they will be given a new reading diary and book at their level within the first week back into school.
- Reading at home is a crucial part of your child's reading journey of becoming readers, especially at this early stage. Our school expectation is to be reading the same book with your child at home at least 3 times a week. This supports your child's decoding, fluency, prosody (story telling voice) and comprehension.
- In your child's bag you will find their Reading diary, along with a fully decodable Phonics book which is closely matched to your child's current Phonics knowledge that they should be able to read themselves and a Share together story which is a story for your child to listen to while you share and read it to them. (This is different to a Library book).
- Books will be changed once a week which will be a Thursday, but please send reading books and diaries into school everyday.

KARATE READERS

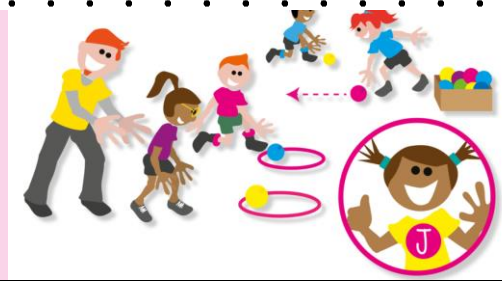
- At woodlands we do something called 'Karate readers.' This encourages children to read more at home.
- One read per day.
- When a child has read at least 25 times at home they will receive a white wristband.
- For a 'read at home' to count there must be a signature from an adult in their reading book.

There are many different colour wristbands to earn:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ 25 reads - white band | 125 reads - blue band |
| ■ 50 reads - yellow band | 150 reads - brown band |
| ■ 75 reads - orange band | 175 reads - black band |
| ■ 100 reads - green band | 200 reads - white band PLUS |



PE



PE days for Reception & Year 1 are: Tuesdays & Thursdays.



Children must come into school in their PE kit on these days. They must wear appropriate footwear. E.g. trainers.



Long hair should be tied back.



Earrings will be covered.

THANK YOU FOR
COMING!

I AM EXCITED FOR THE
YEAR TO COME 😊