



Foundation Two (Reception) Newsletter - January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the start of an exciting new term in Reception! We are pleased to see that the children are eager and ready to continue with their learning.

Our topic this term is called '**A Story Unfolds**' which focuses on the **Understanding the World** and **Literacy** areas of learning. Throughout the topic, children will begin to understand that the local area has a historical story to tell and they will also get to know some traditional tales.

We will visit the Old Royal Naval College to take part in an interactive story telling session to learn about its past. We will then move on to learning about the Cutty Sark and how it travelled to faraway places. To make this as meaningful as possible for the children we will visit the ship itself and hear stories about how it sailed the seas long ago. To enhance our topic work we will also read traditional tales and sing some nursery rhymes. We will learn how to retell a story through drama, illustrations and by sharing our own personal experiences. This will help us to understand story structure and will support us when writing our own creative tales.

Our learning will also continue to support the other areas of learning in the Foundation Stage: **Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Communication and Language Development, Mathematics and Expressive Arts and Design**. Please see the Curriculum Overview for more details.

Routines: Please remember that the Reception day begins at 9.00am sharp. Children should join the line when we are ready to receive them. Children who regularly come to school after 9.00am are missing out on important opportunities to greet their friends and to calmly and independently start their day. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Reading: We will continue to send home a levelled phonics reading book on your child's designated reading day (please check the label on their yellow reading pack for any changes this term) and a book of their choice that you can share together. Please continue to utilise the green reading diaries.

P.E.: As well as lots of challenging daily physical activities, the children will enjoy a PE lesson every **Thursday** afternoon in the middle hall. Please ensure your child wears sensible clothes every day but especially on Thursdays. Skirts and tights are not practical as the children will be working in bare feet and skirts can inhibit movement. Shoes that can be removed and put back on independently are preferable.

Communication: Please continue to check our weekly whole school newsletter for important information throughout the term and updates on what we have been learning. Some of our learning will also be on show on our school instagram account - @meridianlearns. Please take the opportunity to log on to our online Google Classroom regularly to access home learning.

Should you ever wish to speak to us to discuss any aspect of your child's school life, we are around after school for a quick chat. If you would like a longer appointment, please contact the office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards, Mary Clare Awford and Esther Roberts (Class Teachers)