

Reckleford School & Nursery

'Every child has the right to an education' UNICEF Article 28

Newsletter 3

JANUARY 2022



Welcome to the January Newsletter.

The weather remains cold and we continue to ventilate classrooms so please feel free to put your child in an extra layer in addition to their school jumper if they feel they need it. 😊

LATEST COVID GUIDANCE

We remain at AMBER level as advised by Public Health. Numbers of cases have been increasing over the past week. This means that we are not holding assemblies and are being as careful as we can be to keep classes separate when inside the building. Children are eating in the hall but they are at separate tables and windows are open.

Classroom windows are open a little in order to allow fresh air to circulate. We do monitor the temperature and won't let the room get too cold – the heating is also on!

We will continue with our slightly staggered start for the rest of the term.

Staff are wearing masks in the corridors, staffroom and offices and any visitors coming into the building are by appointment only and must wear masks. **THIS IS OUR DECISION DESPITE GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE.** We have had a number of cases in the school and linked to the school. Our aim remains to keep our setting open and children learning. We are doing our best to maintain safety as well as great learning and we thank you for your continued support.

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you so much for your responses to our parent survey carried out in December. A number of issues are clearly affecting many of you:

- 1) Dental appointments – it is vital that children have regular check-ups for their teeth. Every family should be able to sign on with a dentist – **PLEASE TALK TO US IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO.** Appointments can take a long time at the

moment but do book one – even if it is school time and it seems a long way off.

- 2) GP appointments – we know this can be difficult depending on which surgery you are with. Again, please let us know if you are worried and cannot get an appointment – we may be able to help you.
- 3) Working hours and shifts are difficult for many of you. We do understand that sharing night & day shifts and childcare is both hard and exhausting. Asking for help is often the best thing to do as other families are in similar situations and you may be able to help each other.

PLEASE REMEMBER – we are here to support children **AND THEIR FAMILIES** so always talk to us if you need help 😊

LUNCHES

Please remember to let us know if you wish your child to start having school dinners. This now takes 2 weeks to order.

RECKLEFORD GOVERNING BODY

Our School & Nursery is extremely lucky to have a dedicated and knowledgeable Governing Body. As well as monitoring and supporting the Finances, leadership and learning they have also secured funding for the improvements to our garden. This work will hopefully start in the Spring and we hope to hold an event in the Summer where all parents and children can celebrate our Garden together.

I am very pleased to welcome our newly elected Parent Governor, Matthew Parsons, onto the Governing Body. Matthew is a parent in Year R and we are really looking forward to working with him.

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS!

We are studying many well-known traditional tales and fabulous stories this half-term. Hedgehogs have been problem-solving how to stop a Big Bad Wolf and Squirrels have been meeting the characters from the wonderful Julia Donaldson books – can they make more room on that broom?

Badgers are looking at Zog and writing character descriptions as well as looking at the life of Julia Donaldson and creating a timeline as part of their History curriculum.

RECKLEFORD IS RECYCLING!

We are about to introduce our lunchtime recycling bins so that children can see what can be recycled and what happens to the food, paper, card and plastics that we throw away.

We will also be encouraging you all to choose products with less plastic for packed lunches and to bring re-useable bottles into school.

SCHOOL JUMPERS

We are also changing our school jumpers so that our lovely blue uniform will be made from recycled plastic bottles! We challenging the children to tell the difference – we can't!

CARYMOOR VISIT

We are one of 30 schools to have been selected for a free visit to the fantastic environmental learning centre at Carymoor. We have visited a number of times in the past and it is always a fantastic learning experience and a great way to add to our Science curriculum.

Look out for details and please note there will be a charge for the coach.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

We will be having a day on February 8th where the children will be exploring the wonders of online learning as well as all the rules that will keep them safe now and in the future. We will also send reminders to parents on the latest guidance which we hope you will all discuss with your children.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday, March 4th. We will be challenging the children to dress up as a character from a Traditional Tale or a Julia Donaldson Book – we can't wait to see how creative you can all be!

READING!

I have asked the classes to tell me what types of books they would like more of in the classrooms and library. Below is a wonderful list they came up with:

More wolf books

Pepper pig

Unicorns

Sofia the first (T.V?)

Tiger stories

Spiderman – 5 requests

Maps, big maps

Boats and ships, Titanic

Peas

A Science book with skeleton in

Dinosaur stories – Pooped (Tom fletcher?)

Fireman Sam

Minecraft

I will be buying some of these with the money we raised from our sales last term. However, if you have any unwanted books at home on these subjects we would be grateful for any donations!

PLEASE keep up with reading practice at home. It makes a huge difference to the progress your child makes. Our aim is for children to be fluent readers by the end of year 2. Every bit of daily practice will help towards this. Every time you read your child a story, it helps towards this. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to your child's teacher – we will be happy to help!

READING RAINBOW

Please do sign your child's reading record every time they read at home so we can reward their efforts with a certificate for every 10 reads. When all colour certificates have been achieved, your child will become a Reading Ambassador and wear a special badge!

VALENTINE SALE

We will be holding a Covid-safe sale or tombola on Monday 14th February –



please look out for further details nearer the time

START OF THE DAY

Squirrels & Hedgehogs – 8.45

Badgers – 8.55

It is essential that children are at school for their register.

PE KIT DAYS

PE DAYS:

SQUIRRELS – Monday & Thursday

HEDGEHOGS – Wednesday & Thursday

BADGERS – Tuesday & Thursday

ATTENDANCE

The Government, Local Authority and all schools are now monitoring attendance extremely closely.

Holidays during term time will not be permitted.

Children have missed significant amounts of education due to the pandemic so holidays must be taken during school holidays.

Term time holidays of 5 days or more will result in a Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority.

LET'S GET ACTIVE!

Physical activity is brilliant for our physical and mental health. We make sure the children have activity breaks through the school day. At lunchtimes we are

introducing weekly activities to improve their skills with ropes & hoops, balls and circus skills!

The Chief Medical Officer recommends 60 minutes a day of physical activity for school age children. I have attached the guidelines and ideas for all families. Have a look and have fun!

THE SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS:

recklefordschool@educ.somerset.gov.uk

SAFEGUARDING – THE END OF THE DAY

I must remind you that The MAGNA HOUSING CARPARK AND GRASS BANK ARE PRIVATE PROPERTY. You can be fined for parking there and you should not allow your children onto the grass banks. Many thanks.



Confidential help and advice for parents and carers of 0-4 years or 5-19 years. A safe and easy way to contact your Health Visiting Team . Just send a text. 07480 635514 (0-4s) or 07480 635515 (5-19)

For more details about the school please visit our website : <https://somerset.org.uk/sites/reckleford>

KEY DATES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Tuesday 8 th February	SAFER INTERNET DAY
Monday 14 th February	VALENTINE RAFFLE / TOMBOLLA
Monday 21 st - Friday 25 th Feb	HALF-TERM
TBC	CARYMOOR TRIP
Tuesday 8 th March	RIGHTS RESPECTING DAY

'Where every child feels safe and inspired to learn and find out what their best can be - now and in the future.' Reckleford School & Nursery ethos