

EYFS Weekly Newsletter

8th September 2017



This week in EYFS

Wow, what an amazing start to school life your little ones have had. The children have settled into Reception really well and are becoming more confident with the day to day routines at Lea Endowed. Mrs Gingell, Mrs Perry and I are very impressed with how well the children have adapted to their new surroundings. The children have been learning all about the rules of our school and we have introduced the children to our behaviour system. Each day your child will start on "Blue Skies". Throughout the day they will move up the clouds when they display good behaviour and work until they reach the final cloud "Over the Rainbow". If they reach this cloud three times then their name will be on our weekly newsletter and they will be able to go into our special reward box in class. The cloud system also works for poor behaviour, with the child's name going down the cloud if they make poor choices. I will speak to parents at the end of the day if a child is continuously making poor choices and we will think of strategies to ensure your child is following our school rules. If you have any questions about this then please do not hesitate to contact me in school.

This week your child has also been introduced to the first phonics sounds s and a. Your child has been busy practising these sounds throughout the areas of provision. I will be holding a Phonics Evening in the next couple of weeks to guide you through the key elements of phonics. It would be great to see all parents there. Dates to be confirmed asap.

Next week in Reception

Next week in class we will be continuing to learn all about our families and each other. We will be doing lots of speaking and listening activities through circle time. The children will be encouraged to speak in front of the whole class and will be gaining confidence to work with different friendship groups.

I am going to be carrying out Baseline Assessments on all of the children this week to ascertain where I need to begin with their learning. All children will be coming into school at differing levels of ability and this process is to see where there are gaps and strengths in their knowledge. The children will be put into groups for their Phonics and Maths lessons and will be given both adult focused, and group based activities, to teach them how to read, write and use numbers. Each child will also be given a key person which will be either Mrs Gingell or me. The key person will be involved in keeping your child's Learning Journal up to date and will be observing your child through play and adult focused tasks. Twice a week we will get together with our key groups for Story Time, Circle Time and Speaking and Listening tasks.

Next week we are also going to be looking at the story book "Funny Bones". Our Science lessons are going to involve learning about parts of the body so this book is perfect to introduce the children to the skeleton. You can find copies and videos of the book online so if you would like to talk to your child about this prior to next week that would be great.

Thank you for an amazing start to school. I am very excited about the next few months together.

Tapestry

Next week I will be setting all children up with a Tapestry account. This app allows parents to see photos of their child and what they have been learning. Your child's learning will be assessed towards the Early Learning Goals and these will be evident through Tapestry so you can see where your child is with their learning. Your child's photos will only be accessible to you but at times your child may be in a group photo. If you do not want your child's photograph going to another parent then please can you let me know and I will ensure that they are kept out of group photos. All photos must remain on the app and are not to be screenshot and put on social media. This is to keep our children safe and failure to do this may result in me removing your child from the app.

Thank you very much.

Notices

Water bottles - please can you ensure that your child has a water bottle in school **that is named**. It is really important that children keep hydrated throughout the day so that they are able to concentrate fully.

Personal Items - please ensure that **all** of your child's clothes, shoes etc are fully named.



Homework

Our theme for this term is "All about me!" We will be spending the term getting to know each other and finding out about our families and home traditions. For this week's homework and to be used in next week's "Big Talk" sessions, please could you send a picture of your family into school.

Thank you