

Beckley C of E Primary School

Church Street, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9UT
Telephone: 01865 351416
Email: office@beckleyschool.com
Web: www.beckleyschool.com

Headteacher: Mr Mark Szortowski



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Dear Parents

Autumn Term 2018

Welcome to Reception class, also known as Tufted Duck class. We have been looking forward to our exciting new class and welcome all our new children to the beginning of their learning journey through Beckley School.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'My First Class', please see the attached topic web. Our main priority at the beginning of the year is to establish class routines. Through discussion and activities we encourage children to become confident and secure in the classroom. We actively encourage sharing and turn taking through playing lots of games. We assist children in developing their independence and explore learning opportunities both indoors and outside. At times, the children will sit and practice handwriting, counting, reading, etc, but the majority of the activities will be informal and practical.

Snack

Please send in a clearly named healthy snack for your child to eat at morning play. In an effort to be a healthy school we do not allow sweet or salty snacks; fruit, vegetables, rice cakes, dried fruit, bread sticks, cereal bars are ideal. Please note that nuts are **not** permitted at school due to children with severe nut allergies. We provide a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for afternoon play.

Water

We encourage children to drink water throughout the day. Please provide a named water bottle that contains only water. Juice and squash is not permitted during class time. If you would like your child to drink something other than water at lunch time, please provide them with a separate bottle or drink in their lunch box.

Clothes

Children need a **named** jumper, coat and wellies at school as we do use our outdoor area at all opportunities. It can be useful to put a spare set of named clothes in their school bag in case of a toileting issue.

Reading

We teach children to read through group sessions called Guided Reading. A small group of children will discuss and read an appropriate book together with an adult and spend time on important 'book talk', ie: discussing the story and the characters. Activities involving the book are also undertaken. Once children are confident and secure with their letter recognition and sounds they will be given a book to read at home. Until this time feel free to use the books in the box outside our classroom door to look at together. (Please note that we may have to charge a small amount to replace lost books.)

Toys

We would kindly ask you to discourage your child from bringing their toys to school because of the upset caused when they get lost or broken. However, we enjoy seeing the children's books, particularly if they relate to the current topic, and we would be delighted for the children to share these during our Show and Tell sessions.

Art

Throughout the term the children will be doing a variety of Art and DT activities. We are always in need of "interesting" bits and pieces (eg: beads, buttons, ribbons, wool, shiny paper, wallpaper/lining paper, bubble wrap, fabric remnants, etc) for collaging so please do bring them in to class, the children will always find a use for them. The children also enjoy junk modelling for which we always need boxes, kitchen tubes, silver foil trays, etc, and we would ask that you bring these into school as often as you can. Similarly, any unused diaries, notepads, address books, letter headed paper, envelopes, etc, would be well used in our writing corner.

Play Dough

The children enjoy using play dough and we would hope that you could help by occasionally making some for the class during the term. You will find a termly rota for this on the Reception notice board, together with a recipe.

We look forward to getting to know our class and anticipate a great term ahead of us.

Kind Regards

Lucy Bedding and Hilary Jones

Communication & Language

- Listen to and discuss stories
- Understand and follow simple instructions
- Use language to imagine and create roles in play
- Use talk to organise and sequence feelings and events
- Talk about their 'All About Me' bag
- Listen and respond appropriately to others

R.E

- Care for others
- Values

Expressive Arts & Design

- Join in singing familiar songs and rhymes
- Explore the different sounds of instruments and how to use them
- Use a wide range of media to create drawings
- Play alongside others
- Develop imaginary play

Outdoor Area

This is used in all areas of learning and in all weathers.

Personal and Social Development

- Settle into class and make friends
- Understand class routines and boundaries
- Play co-operatively and share resources
- Learn to take turns
- Join in with circle time
- Understand that their own actions affect other people



My First Class

Understanding the World

- Show interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them
- Remember and talk about significant events in their own experience
- Talk about some of the things they have observed.
- Learn how to use the computer

Mathematics

- Use some number names accurately in play
- Know that numbers identify how many objects are in a set
- Begin to represent numbers
- Show interest in shapes in the environment
- Use familiar objects and common shapes to create and recreate patterns and build models
- Order and sequence familiar events

Physical Development

- Practise gross motor skills
- Negotiate space successfully
- Use scissors sensibly & safely
- Begin to develop fine motor skills
- Encourage self-care: using the toilet, washing and drying hands

Literacy

- Give meaning to marks as they draw, write and paint
- Recognise and begin to write their name
- Develop a comfortable pencil grip
- Listen to and join in with stories
- Handle books carefully

