



BROOKFIELD SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

Welcome to Reception! It has been a busy few weeks as new children have joined Acorn and Conker class each day, but now our classes are complete! We are really enjoying getting to know your children and are very excited about the year ahead. Our priority for the first few weeks has been to familiarise the children with new routines and establish calm, positive behaviour. We have also started to carry out the new statutory Reception Baseline Assessment. The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills using familiar resources and materials. It will help provide us with useful snapshot of where your child is in their learning, so that we can support them in the most appropriate way.

Our theme this half-term is **Home** and for the second half-term it will be **Equality**. We have selected high quality texts which support these themes, providing lots of opportunities to find out about ourselves, each other, our homes, families, communities and traditions, and to explore the many similarities and differences that people share. On the next page, we have outlined our main focus for each area of learning, although provision in the Early Years also enables children to follow their own interests alongside this.

Starting next week, the children will choose a picture book to bring home each week to share with you. Please try to find the time to read to your child daily as being read to supports children's early reading development as well as instilling a love of books! After half-term, once the children have learned enough sounds, we will start sending home reading books as well.

If you have any questions or need to arrange to speak with one of us, please email reception@brookfield.camden.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Seren, Kate, Becca, Christel, Aniqqa and Zenab

Key dates for your diary:

Thursday 7th October – Open Afternoon (school closes at 1.30pm)
Friday 8th October – INSET Day (school closed)
Week beginning 25th October – Half term
December – Reception Festive Songs TBC

Weekly schedule:

Monday: Picture books and/or reading books changed, music with Julia
Tuesday:
Wednesday: Acorn and Conker Class PE Lessons
Thursday:
Friday: Climbing and balancing apparatus set up in the hall

Themes: Home and Equality



Our value of the term is responsibility

As a class, we will discuss how we are all responsible for making sure that everyone is happy, safe and able to play and learn, and how we need to behave in order to achieve this. The children will also learn how to look after our Giant African Land Snails.

Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We will hold regular circle times with games and activities designed to help the children to get to know everyone in the class and build respectful relationships. We will also be learning about a range of emotions and children will be encouraged to use the class feelings board and to talk about their feelings. The importance of good hygiene will also be a key focus.

Physical Development - Weekly PE lessons will help to develop the children's gross motor skills. We will also make use of the gym apparatus in the lower hall once a week and ensure that the children have access to a range of equipment daily in the reception outside area. The development of fine motor skills will focus on correct pencil grip, letter formation, woodwork tools and cutting skills, with lots of fun and sensory activities provided in the classroom to strengthen hand muscles and practise these skills.

Communication and Language - At the start of the year we spend lots of time talking to the children about the importance of listening and helping them to become 'Super Listeners'. We share lots of stories and rhymes; individually, in small groups and as a whole class, encouraging children to express their opinions and ideas and share their knowledge and experiences. As children become familiar with key texts, we support them to retell the stories and we will also be encouraging them to innovate their own stories using the 'The Three Little Pigs' as a starting point. New vocabulary, linked to key texts and other areas of learning, is taught explicitly, including 'Word of the Week'.

Literacy - Daily phonics lessons, following the *Read, Write Inc.* programme, will introduce the children to new sounds and one new 'tricky' word each week. As the children learn more sounds, they will start to blend and segment them to read and write simple words. Each child will read 1:1 with an adult in school every week.

Maths - This half-term we will be focusing on matching and sorting; comparing amounts, size, mass and capacity; and making simple patterns. After half term, the focus will be on helping children to develop a deep understanding of the numbers 1 to 4. Alongside developing their ability to recognise numerals, count and subitise, they will compare and explore the composition of each number as they work towards being able to automatically recall number bonds. In addition, the children will start to develop their knowledge of 2D shapes and their properties.

Understanding the World - Throughout the term, the children will learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions. We will also be learning about seasonal changes in our environment. Within the area of past and present, we will be comparing old and modern homes and characters from traditional tales with their modern day counterparts.

Expressive Arts and Design - This term the children's weekly music lessons will take the form of 'Write Dance' sessions, which use music and dance to develop the skills needed for writing. The children will produce movement drawings in response to carefully selected pieces of music. In art, the children will be encouraged to explore what happens when they mix colours and to experiment with texture. Small world and role play resources will be provided to help children develop their own narratives. The children will be gradually introduced to the different woodwork tools so that they can use them independently in their creations.