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## Reception Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We warmly welcome you to Raglan Primary School and to our Foundation Stage! We hope that you have enjoyed your summer and are ready to come on this exciting learning journey with us. It has been lovely meeting you and getting to know both you and your child over the past week. We would just like to remind you that if you do need to chat to us or ask a question, please do always come and see us. Below is a little reminder of our team here at Raglan.

### Our Team...



Ms Ezinwa

Monkeys Class  
Teacher



Miss Donnelly

Lions Class  
Teacher



Ms Nash

Monkeys Learning  
Support Assistant



Mrs Simpson

Monkeys Learning  
Support Assistant



Mrs Nye

Lions Learning  
Support Assistant

### Our Topic this Term ....

We are so excited to dive into our first topic...



'All About Me'

This topic is a brilliant way to begin school as we all get to know each other and celebrate our similarities and differences. The children will be sharing experiences and building new relationships with the adults and their peers as they settle in to the new routines and begin their learning journey at Raglan.

Through our topic we cover the key areas of learning in the Foundation Stage, these are...

- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Literacy
- Communication and Language
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive Arts and Design



During the year we are hoping to have visits from people in the community such as police officers, nurses, postal workers, dentists and fire fighters. If you know anyone who is in these roles, please let us know!

### Physical Development in Reception ...

Both Reception classes will have a PE session twice a week. These sessions will take place on a **Monday** with the class teacher and on a **Wednesday** with Coach Alhaji. Children will need to come in to school wearing weather appropriate PE kit. The PE kit consists of a navy blue t-shirt, navy shorts or jogging bottoms and plimsoles or Velcro black trainers. Please ensure that all of the PE kit is labelled, including the plimsoles and trainers.

PE sessions will begin on **Monday 18th September**.

### Foundation Stage Reminders...

- Please could your child bring in a coat to school as they will be going outside every day. Practising how to do it up and take it off at home would be very much appreciated.
- Please send a labelled water bottle and your child's book bag in to school every day – thank you. Encourage your child to hold their water bottle and not to put it inside their book bag to prevent any leaks. Please label all uniform so we can return it to the rightful owner!
- Please check your child's book bag regularly for important letters and information.
- Please could you send in a family photo that we can display in the classroom (we will photocopy and send home the original).

### This Term in Phonics...

Phonics is taught on a daily basis. The children will be revisiting phase 1 sounds and then gradually introduced to phase 2 sounds s,a,t,p,i,n. We will be using flash cards, actions and interactive games to engage the children. Phonics lessons provide the initial building blocks to help your child to begin to read and write.

We will be holding a Reception Phonics and Early Reading Workshop. During this meeting, we will share with you some strategies we use to teach Phonics and early reading skills at Raglan.

### This term in Maths...

We will be counting forwards and backwards using number lines and visuals to help us. The children will be matching, sorting and comparing objects and numbers.

### Important Dates

**Monday 25th September** – Reception Phonics and Early Reading Workshop  
**Tuesday 26th September** – PE Café  
**Thursday 28th September** – Harvest Festival  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Weds 11<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents Evening  
**Friday 6th October** – Spooky Disco  
**October – Black History Month**  
*Half Term*  
*Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October*

### How can you help at home?

- We would be grateful if you could **donate £1** for our consumables that resource our messy and malleable play. If you are able to do this please put donations in a named envelope – thank you for your support.
- Encourage your child to count forwards and backwards up to 10 and beyond. This can be done in many fun and exciting ways. E.g. counting fruit in the supermarket or how many cars or buses they see as they walk to school!
- Share a variety of books at home with your child to promote a love of reading and build on comprehension skills such as retelling the story and answering simple questions about the events, characters and settings.

### Useful websites

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b08bzfnh/numberblocks>



## Star of the Week and our Recognition Board at Raglan...

Our aim is for everyone to have a great time learning at Raglan, being kind, ready for learning and keeping each other safe.

Every day the children have the opportunity for their names to go on the Recognition Board for making good choices and doing their best with their learning. They are then rewarded with a sticker at the end of the day.

Every week a child will be picked as 'Star of the Week', which is a great honour! The Star of the Week will be allowed to take home the class animal to look after at the weekend. You and your child may wish to write, take photographs or draw pictures of their adventures. We will send your child home with a plastic wallet with pieces of paper to share their weekend with their class puppet. This will then be stuck into the class Star of the Week Book.



Molly the Monkey and Mojo the Monkey



Luke the Lion and Lucy the Lioness

**Please remember to send in your WOW moments!**



## Concept Cat

This year, to support the children's understanding of language and oracy skills, we will be introducing some new vocabulary to the children each week. We will be implementing this through the use of 'Concept Cat', to help make learning new vocabulary engaging and memorable for the children. Maybe you could ask your child which new vocabulary they have learnt each week to reinforce the learning!

# CONCEPT CAT



## Curiosity Cube

We also have a curiosity cube in our classroom! The purpose of a curiosity cube is to excite the children and encourage them to look at things in a different way and discuss what they see, as well as develop their ability to ask questions. They can use a curiosity cube as part of a topic they're learning at school or at home.



## Number of the week

This year to support the children's understanding of number, we will be introducing a new number every fortnight. Here is an example of the different representations that we have in each classroom for children to explore.



## Worry monsters

Hello!

We are the Reception Worry Monsters and we are here to listen to any worries that you are having. Sometimes things feel a bit different and it can be a bit scary but we are here to help!

Tell us your worry and we will be able to eat it up! You can also come and speak to any of the adults in Reception. Sometimes just knowing you have shared your worry with someone will help you to feel better .

Take care and keep smiling!



## EYFS Notice Board

Please keep a look out for our EYFS notice board which is kept in front of the EYFS gate. We will use the notice board to inform you of any messages or reminders.

