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National Support School

## Welcome to Reception



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly we would like to wish you a warm welcome to our Warden House school family and say how excited we are to welcome your child into school. We are delighted that you have chosen our school for your child. Starting school is such a special time; a time for new experiences, new friends and a step towards more independence for your child. We also understand that this may be a bit daunting for all of you. However, your child is about to begin a very exciting journey.



Please see below an Overview sharing information about your child's learning for the terms ahead. This is linked to the 7 key areas of learning in Reception: Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September, children will receive their first book. This book will be labelled as a '**Sharing book**'. This book is intended to provide more reading opportunities for families and extend the children's exposure to vocabulary. The children are **not** expected to read these books. Rather, they should simply enjoy the story as it is being read to them. Please ensure to ask lots of questions and encourage your child to talk about the objects they can see on the page, or make up their own story endings.

The week after, your child will start bringing home two books every Thursday. The '**Sharing book**' (for the adult to read and share) and a second '**Phonics book**' linked to the current Phonics stage that we will be teaching in class. In the beginning, this book will **not** have any words in it and will only have pictures. This will allow your child an opportunity to make their own story and tell you what they learned at school. As the year and the learning progresses, the words will start appearing in the book for your child to read. According to our learning approach, your child will be keeping the same two books for the week and is encouraged to



reread the same book repeatedly. This will allow your child to memorise the visual representation of the words and make those much-needed connections.

We ask that you comment in your child's **reading record** when they have finished their book, noting any difficulties or any successes they might have had. Please add any other general communications in the Reading Record so our staff could write you a response. We would appreciate if your child would have the Reading Record in their book bag every day. **Both books must be returned each Monday.**

Please see more guidance around reading in a guidance letter [Here](#).

We also will be sending home Homework tasks every Friday. Please support your child to remember to complete those every week.



Our PE day is **Wednesday**, so please send children to school with their Warden House PE tops/joggers and trainers on this day.

If you are unsure of anything at all after reading this letter and looking through the information on our website, then please do not hesitate to get in touch through my school email [beth.glanville@warden-house.kent.sch.uk](mailto:beth.glanville@warden-house.kent.sch.uk) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Beth Glanville  
EYFS Teacher

**Communication and language:**

Children will begin to understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important, whilst engaging in daily story times.

**Physical development:**

Children will further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully: lining up and queuing, mealtimes and personal hygiene.

They will develop their fine and gross motor skills in activities accessed through continuous provision.

They will access PE every **Wednesday** with a focus on agility.

**Expressive Arts and Design:**

Children will develop storylines in their pretend play.

They will explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.

They will explore a range of sounds using their bodies, voices and surroundings.

**Overview:**

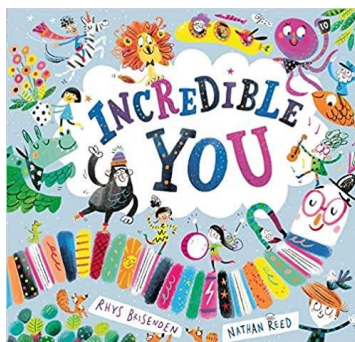
Children will consider what makes them special. They will practise talking about their feelings and learn how others may have different feelings to them. They will also think about what makes a good friend and a great learner.

**Literacy:**

Children will be following our Little Wandle Phonics scheme to access daily Phonics lessons and 3 x weekly group reading sessions. They will begin to read individual letters sounds, write initial sounds and focus on their pencil grip.

**Term 1**

**Marvellous Me**



**PSED:**

Children will learn to express their feelings, allowing them to share and show how they feel. They will learn to develop their confidence in their new surroundings and how to be responsible for their belongings. Whilst building new friendships they will learn to work together as part of a team and begin to understand simple rules.

**Maths:**

Children will match and sort objects and compare amounts. They will learn that objects can be compared and ordered according to size using language such as: big, little, large and small. They will copy, continue and create their own simple repeating patterns.

**Understanding the World:**

Children will be encouraged to talk about members of their immediate family and community. They will name and describe people who are familiar to them.