



# Signhills Infant Academy



## Reception Newsletter



### Welcome to Reception!

A warm welcome to all the families joining Signhills, we look forward to working with you and your children this year! The children are settling in very well, getting to know each other, exploring their environment with interest and are becoming familiar with the routines. We are so proud of them all! Thank you all very much for your patience and support during this phasing-in period.

### Meet the Team!

#### Blue Class:

Miss Jessica Dowson  
& Mrs Lauren Fields  
(Class Teachers)

Mrs Rachael Roberts  
(Teaching Assistant)

#### Yellow Class:

Miss Felicity Savage  
(Class Teacher)

Mrs Tracy Forsey  
(Teaching Assistant)

#### Red Class:

Mrs Hazel Elliott-  
Gregory  
(Class Teachers)

Mrs Sarah Rea / Mrs  
Judith Blockley  
(Teaching Assistants)

#### Learning Support:

Miss Bethany Plant  
Miss Julie Bird

If parents have any worries or concerns, please make an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher or the Reception Leader, Miss Dowson.

### Our Themes



During the first couple of weeks we will be assessing the children and finding out what they know and can already do. Our main theme for the next few weeks will be **'Super Friends!'** We will be setting up a superhero role-play area and activities themed to superhero stories' e.g. 'Supertato'. The children are going to think about which kind and friendly superpowers they already have! This is very much a settling in period for all children. We will be talking about our feelings,

caring for each other and our environment, and building friendships. We will be finding out about the children's interests, likes and dislikes, and providing activities for children to explore their senses.



Towards the end of the half term we will be looking for the first signs of autumn and reading stories such as 'Pumpkin Soup' and, Percy the Park Keeper 'After the Storm'.

Children are welcome to bring in books or objects relating to our themes to share with their friends or put out on display. We are looking forward to filling our sensory trays with autumn leaves, conkers and acorns.....so get collecting!

### Literacy



We will soon be starting our phonics lessons and will be sending home a reading pack containing letter sounds, a word maker and a reading diary. Children can tell you the letter sounds they have been learning and have a go at making words on the word maker. They will be very proud to show you what they have been learning at school!

We would appreciate it if you could sign your name or leave a brief comment in your child's reading diary (no more than once a week). We understand that children may be tired at the end of the day so we do not expect children to do homework on a daily basis. Sharing a child's favourite book and talking about it can be just as enriching.

As soon as your child is blending and reading simple words, we will introduce them to reading books from our school reading scheme. We will be contacting you in the near future with more information about our online school reading scheme.

### Maths

Our Maths work will be based around working with numbers to 10 and beyond. We will be planning activities to encourage children to count forwards and backwards, order numbers and to count objects accurately. We will be estimating quantities and finding one more and



one less than any given number e.g. *what is one more than 9? What is one less than 8?*

Children will be finding out about shapes and building and describing models with the shapes they use. Children will be making patterns that repeat e.g. *yellow, blue, yellow, blue...* or *red, yellow, blue, red, yellow, blue...* and making patterns that are symmetrical.

## Reward Systems



Our reward system is built around rewarding positive behaviour. We work closely with the children to compile a list of rules.

Each class has a reward system displayed in their classroom e.g. Rainbow, happy sunshine and sad cloud, or shooting star, happy star and sad star. Each child also has an individual reward chart.

If a child is rewarded for following the rules (trying hard, being kind, and taking care of books and toys) they will put their name on the happy sun/star. This means they will get a stamp on their reward chart. If they are rewarded for a second time that day they will put their name on the rainbow/shooting star and will receive a special sticker/treat. If children break the classroom rules they will put their name on the sad cloud/star. Children will always have a warning before this happens. If children are put on the sad cloud/star they will have some 'time out' from playing with their friends. We will keep you informed if anything happens that you need to be concerned about.

### Reward charts:

These charts are a whole-school reward system. Children have 30 boxes to fill on their individual charts. When children fill a line on their star charts they can have a treat. When all 30 spaces are filled, the children will be presented with a certificate in assembly from Ms Majer, the Head Teacher, and given their next star chart.

### Special Helpers:

Every day the teacher in each class chooses two special helpers of the day called 'Handy Helpers'. The helpers take the register to the

office and help with little jobs throughout the day.

### Assemblies:

Reception children will not attend assemblies for a few weeks. We will start by attending singing assemblies. Next half term we will be joining in with the whole-school Celebration Assemblies every Friday morning. We will send out more information about these assemblies nearer the time.

## Reminders



Due to the impending wet and cooler weather, please send your child with a jumper or cardigan and a rain coat.

We invite children to bring in a water bottle every day so that they can access them as and when they feel thirsty throughout the day.

PE will take place every Wednesday morning for all Reception children, so if you haven't already, PE bags need to be brought into school. PE bags stay in school and are sent home at the end of the term for a wash and freshen up.

Please can we ask that all items of school uniform and PE kit be labelled with your child's name as it can be very easy for children to pick up the wrong items of clothing whilst changing for PE or leave sweatshirts outside.

## Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** - Grimsby Evening Telegraph are taking photographs of our new children in Blue, Red and Yellow class.
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** - Jeans for Genes Day
- **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September** - Photographs  
A photographer will be taking individual photographs of the children.
- **Parent Consultation Meetings:**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October** (2pm - 6pm)  
**Or**  
**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October** (2pm - 5.00pm)
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** - Parent Drop-In (9.00 - 9.30am) an opportunity to stay and play with your child.

Thank you parents for your help and support!

The Reception Team

