**Welcome**

Firstly we would like to welcome you all, and your families, to Coombe Hill Infants.

**RECEPTION STAFF**

Year Leader Mrs Price-Coggins

Bee Class: Ms Robertson, Mrs Ruth, Miss Valerie and Mrs Kill

Dragonfly Class: Mrs Price-Coggins, Miss Long and Mrs Bond

Ladybird Class: Mrs Pratelli, Mrs O’Leary and Mrs Maggie

In addition we have Mrs Milosevic who supports the children in our free flow outside area.

**READING IN RECEPTION**

Reading at home should be an enjoyable experience. We recommend this is made part of your daily routine to develop children’s confidence and fluency.

Each week you will be set an ebook via the Big Cat Collins website, you can find your child’s login attached to the inside of your child’s reading record. This is the book that your child will have read in school with a teacher and is matched precisely to the phonics being taught that week. Your child should be able to read this book independently with 95% accuracy.

In addition to the ebook we will also send home a reading book which is closely matched to their reading ability. We use a range of reading book schemes for these books.Please do not worry about your child’s reading level. You may find that it changes from week to week depending on the area of phonics we are working on, or the specific needs of your child. Remember, reading is not a race!

**It is essential children read at home every day and are also read to**. Your child’s Reading Record forms an important part of the home-school partnership. Please keep reading books and records in Blue Bags. We ask that you comment once a week on your child’s reading using the

Reading Record. We will read this and respond as required. Additionally we will give you a comprehensive comment on their reading progress **each half term**.

It is very important that you keep the reading book in your child’s blue bag every day, so that we are able to read with your child at school on any day.

**BEDTIME BOOKS**

Each class has their own ‘Bedtime Stories’ box full of quality texts- fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Your children will also be able to choose their own reading book in addition to the teacher chosen books mentioned above. This is a book they will have chosen from our collection at school and is intended to be read to them by a grown up at home. This is an opportunity for you to model good reading skills to your child such as; fluctuating your voice, fluent reading, discussing and answering questions about the story.

These can be returned and changed once a week. Bedtime books should be kept in your child’s reading bag and be brought to school every day. Don’t worry if your child brings a particular book home more than once, as there is great value in reading and re-reading books as the words and pictures become more familiar on each reading. They should not be recorded in the Reading Record. Enjoyment for reading has flourished since children have been able to choose their own Bedtime book.

**WORD SETS**

In addition to their reading books, children regularly receive word sets to support their reading skills. Please help them recognise these words by sight (without the need to sound them out), in different contexts and not just on the word set. Reading and playing word games with the children, speeds up their sight recognition and helps build confidence. Sometimes your child will ‘revisit’ word sets to consolidate their sight knowledge of them. Each week we check your child’s sight knowledge of words and once they know all the words in a set, they are rewarded and receive the next word set. If you would like any ideas for games, please ask your teacher. If you ever have any questions concerning your child’s reading, please do not hesitate to talk to your child’s teacher.

**PHONICS**

We follow the Little Wandle Systematic synthetic phonics programme. Each classroom will display the sounds and the letter formation ditties of the week in their windows for you to see.

Please watch the following videos on how to correctly pronounce the sounds taught this term and one of the ways we teach your children to blend.

[Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1](https://youtu.be/-ZtjFIvA_fs)

[How we teach blending](https://youtu.be/IL5YUCPyC5I)

**MONITORING OF YOUR CHILD’S PROGRESS**

Children are assessed at the beginning of the year and then closely monitored throughout the year so that we can ensure that their learning is personalised.

We will be asking you to come in and discuss your child's progress at least once a term, however we will be happy to answer any questions you have between these times.

Your child will receive a formal report of their progress at the end of the year.

**NAMING YOUR CHILD’S CLOTHES**

Please name all items that belong to your child. This should be your child’s first name and family name. Please regularly check items to make sure that they are still clearly named and show your children where on the clothing they are labelled.

Items that should be named include:

Shirts Jumpers Skirts / trousers

Coats Shoes Socks (and underwear when swimming)

Gloves Hats

PE kits (tops and shorts) Trainers Water bottles

Lunch boxes

Please be sure to check the weather forecast each morning and if necessary send your child to school with a named coat. Children have access to the outdoor area in all weather.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

PE sessions take place on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.

**Please come to school on these days in weather appropriate PE kit, rather than in school uniform**. Please work on building your child’s ability to independently change at home.

 

Blue or white t-shirt, plain joggers or shorts, VELCRO trainers and the school jumper, cardigan or fleece.

Each child should come to school with a freshly filled, **named** water bottle.

**MEDICATION & SICKNESS**

Medicines/inhalers, etc. must be handed to the School Office. If your child is unwell, please call the School Office and let them know that your child will be absent. If your child has been vomiting or has had diarrhoea, they should be kept off school for 48 hours from the last episode.

**Lastly**

The staff at CHI are a teaching team but of course we are in partnership with parents/guardians at home. So,

* Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep, exercise and has a healthy diet.
* Encourage them to be independent and confident e.g. teach them to tie laces, talk about what they are learning, take them on days out.
* Please support your child at home by listening to them , reading to them and spending precious time with them.

Each class needs Class Reps, Swimming pool support, help for trips, pencil sharpening, reading, cooking and sewing to name a few ideas.

DBS checks are required and forms can be collected in the office.

Finally, if you have any worries do talk to us. We have an open door policy, so please talk to your class teaching team, Mrs Price-Coggins the Year Group Lead, Mrs Jakob the Deputy Head, Mrs Berry the Head Teacher or Mrs Heard our SENCO. If you need longer to talk please make an appointment.

We are so looking forward to the year ahead and we are sure they will have a very happy 3 years with us.

The Reception Team