

# Reception Newsletter

## September 2017



Saltaire Primary School  
- OUR LEARNING JOURNEY -

## Welcome

We would like to offer you a warm welcome to Saltaire Primary School. We hope that your child will enjoy an exciting year in Reception. Starting school is a big event not only for your child but also for you as parents and carers. We hope that we have made it a positive experience where you have felt welcome and at ease. We have put together some useful information to help you during this first term. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask any member of the Reception team.

## Getting to Know You



During the first few weeks at school, we will try to get to know your children really well and they will hopefully begin to feel settled and comfortable in school. During this time, the children will be talking about their interests, painting self-portraits and learning different parts of the body. We will be helping the children get to know each other and form new friendships by playing small group games.

### Handwriting

This year we are introducing a new cursive handwriting scheme. Children will learn to form letters so they are ready to join much sooner and become more fluent writers e.g. *abc*. We will be sending an example sheet home with your child so that you can support your child at home. There will be more information about this on the Induction evening alongside a Phonics workshop for parents.

Induction evening is 21<sup>st</sup> September 6.00-7.30pm

### Book Bags & Uniform

Your child has received a new book bag. This will be sent home each day and may contain important items such as school letters and your child's drawings, etc. Please check and return the bag to school each day. The children look incredibly smart in their new uniforms. Please can we ask that you ensure all items of school clothing are clearly named so lost items can be found much more easily.

### Collection of Children

Can we please request that if there is a change to the normal person collecting your child on a given day that you inform school beforehand. A password system is used if a child is collected by an adult not known to us. Please contact the school office who will give you the current password.

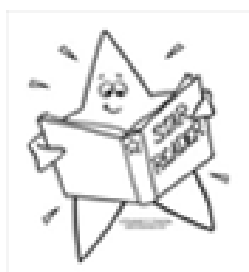
# First days...





## Bookbag System

Please can we draw your attention to the system we use to deal with any correspondence or matters for our attention. This will begin on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Each class teacher will have a box outside the front door in the morning. Please could you put anything that you would like us to see or deal with in this box in the morning. For example, any show and tell, returned slips, letters to teachers, tricky words that need changing etc. This will make sure that we do not miss anything that could be in a book bag. Please could you let whoever brings your child to school know about the new system e.g. childminders. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Star Readers



Once your child receives their school reading book we will be introducing 'Star Readers' every Friday. For your child to be awarded Star Reader, they have to read at home 5 times a week, either reading their book or practising their tricky words. Please make a note of each time they do this in your child's Reading Record. We can then celebrate this on a Friday.

### Wow Moments

We love to hear what children have been doing at home. If you notice your child has done something that you are proud of or if they have any special achievements then please let us know. You can do this by filling in a 'wow' moment or dropping us an email.

Mrs Abbott- [rachelabbott@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:rachelabbott@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk)

Mrs Lofthouse & Mrs Kent- [Sallylofthouse@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:Sallylofthouse@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk)

### Show & Tell

On a Monday children often like to share their weekend news. If your child has a special item of interest from something they have done or somewhere they have been ( e.g. train ticket, panto programme) they can bring this in on a Monday to show to the class and talk about what they have done. No toys please.

### Fruit & Drinks

We are able to provide the children with a piece of fresh fruit and a carton of milk each day. Children are able to help themselves to water throughout the day.



### Bedtime Stories

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September we're celebrating our love of reading in the Early Phase. Children should come to school dressed in their pyjamas and bring with them their favourite bed time story book and a cuddly toy; the teachers will be doing the same!

On this day, children will be able to share their favourite books with their friends and teachers whilst having hot chocolate and biscuits.

# First days...





### Staff

We would like to take this opportunity to give a huge welcome to Miss Iqbal and Mrs Barker who are joining Saltaire Primary School as Reception teaching assistants.

In RKL Mrs Kent will teach at the beginning of the week and Mrs Lofthouse will teach at the end of the week.

In RA Mrs Abbott will teach all week. Miss Brett will be teaching in RA on Friday morning to release Mrs Abbott for management duties.

To give your children the best learning experience and a shared approach all the Reception teachers will meet and plan together on a Wednesday morning.

During this time Mrs Morgan and Miss Brett will be teaching in Reception.

To support the children in their learning we also have Mrs Smith who works in Reception as an Early Years Practitioner and Mrs Cullum who works as a one to one support assistant.

### Birthdays

We will celebrate each child's birthday in school and make sure they feel really special. The children will get to choose a treat from the birthday box, wear the honorary birthday hat and we will all sing 'Happy Birthday'. Due to many children having allergies or other specific dietary requirements please do not send in sweets, chocolates, etc to share.



### Reading Books

The children all choose a library book each week. These will be changed on Fridays so please make sure library books are in school on this day as we cannot send a new book without the old one being returned.

When your child is ready they will receive a reading book. Please always keep your child's reading book in their bookbag every day so they can be read with at school.

We introduce four new letter sounds every week and ask you to practise recognising and writing them at home through games such as 'I spy' and when sharing library books. We recommend that you spend 10 minutes a day on these reading activities.



### Parent Helpers

We would be very grateful to any parents who could spare some time, once the children have settled, to help in school with reading, painting, gardening or creative activities. If you would like to come in and help, please speak to your child's teacher.

### Feedback & Contact details

Please let us know how you feel the settling in process has gone for your child. If you have any thoughts of how we could improve the process or if anything has gone particularly well, we would appreciate your feedback.

We always love to hear what you think so if you have any feedback throughout the year, please let us know.

If you would like to contact us by email at any time please use the following addresses.

RA- [rachelabbott@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:rachelabbott@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk)

RKL- [sallylofthouse@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:sallylofthouse@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk)

### Family Days

We like to invite you as parents and carers to come and spend an afternoon or morning with your child in school. This is a lovely opportunity for your child to show you what they do in school and parents and carers always find this a very positive and insightful experience! From previous feedback we have decided to allocate more sessions, allow children to bring either parent or family relative and give you plenty of notice in order for you to make arrangements.

The dates are as follows:

Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	RKL- morning	RA-afternoon
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	RA-morning	RKL-afternoon
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	RKL- morning	RA-afternoon