

Reception Newsletter September 2020



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.



Amazing Me!

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.

Uniform & Book Bags

Please ensure **all** items of school clothing are clearly named, that way lost items can be found much more easily. **This includes coats, shoes, hats, gloves as well as jumpers, cardigans etc.**

Your child has received a new book bag. This will be sent home each day and may contain important items such as reading books, school letters and your child's drawings etc. Please check the bag daily and return it to school each day. The children look incredibly smart in their new uniforms.

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 if you require the current password.

Staff

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Cullum and Miss Smith who have joined our team as teaching assistants. We are delighted that Mrs Smith, Mrs Embleton and Miss Hussain continue to work as teaching assistants with us this year.

In Hockney Mrs Kent will teach at the beginning of the week and Mrs Austwick will teach at the end of the week.

In Kahlo Miss Garnett has responsibility as class teacher and will be supported by Mrs Littlewood to release her for EYFS 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 afternoon. During this time Mrs Smith and Mrs Littlewood will be teaching in Reception.

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 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.



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 capture it on Evidence Me.

Key Groups

Your child will be placed in a key adult group and we will let you know which group they are in. This will be mainly for Circle Times, Show and Tell and to monitor observations. The class teacher will still oversee the class as a whole.

Show & Tell

On a Monday children will be given a chance to do Show and Tell. They will be able to bring in something special, talk about special events or show pictures. It will be two children per Key Group and we will let you know when it is your child's turn. Please can you ensure your child only brings something when it is their week.

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. We provide cups so bottles are not needed.



Family Photos

To help children settle in we would like to make a display of everybody's family. We would be hugely grateful if you could email a family photo to office@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

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 advise that you spend 10 minutes a day on these reading activities.



Star Readers



Once your child receives their school reading book we will be introducing 'Star Readers' on their reading change day. For your child to be awarded a Star Reader sticker and stamp, 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 your child's reading day.

Feedback and 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.

Kahlo- beckygarnett@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

Hockey- helenbinns@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk (Mrs Kent)

nancygrady@saltire.bradford.sch.uk (Mrs Austwick)

Clothes

Please can you send in a spare change of clothes (including underwear) to be kept on your child's peg. All spare clothes need to be stored in a cloth bag, strictly no plastic bags. If your child would feel more comfortable in their own wellington boots please feel free to send these in.

50 Things To Do Before You're Five

We hope you have enjoyed doing some of the activities over summer. Please email or upload to Evidence Me any photos you have of your children taking part in the activities.

We will hopefully be holding mini activity sessions based around some of the 50 things activities for you and your child to enjoy after school later in the year.

Class Trays

Please place any important information into the class trays in the morning. This should include letters to the teachers, responses to letters, reading books on your child's day and any Tricky Words your child may need changing. Please be aware we do not check bookbags each day so anything important must be placed in the tray.

Donations

We are always keen for any donations of boxes, plastic bottles, fabric, old birthday cards etc. Due to children within the setting having severe allergies please do not bring anything which has had nuts of any kind or peas. Can we also ask that donations come in a carrier bag.