

Silver Class's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Ditton Infant School! We hope your child settles in quickly and soon begins to love school and learning.



Our theme this term is "All About Us" We will be learning about what makes us special and how we are similar and different to other children and families.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

These are skills that underpin learning in the foundation stage. We use animals to represent the different characteristics and encourage the children to use these skills in play and lessons. Our focus this term:

- Concentrating Crocodile
- Exploring Elephant
- I Know Rhino



These are our core skills that we are focusing on this term:

- Listening
- Participating
- Sharing

Maths

This term in Maths, we are going to learn how to count objects, create patterns and describe 2D shapes. We will do this through a range of games, activities and challenges.

Literacy

In Literacy we are going to develop more of an understanding of rhyme and alliteration and begin to blend (push together) and segment (pull apart) words verbally. We will also learn how to give meaning to the marks we make. We will teach the children how to make marks using lines, squiggles and letters to represent what they are trying to write.

To help us make this meaningful to your child, we would like them to bring in something that is *special* to them such as a family photo or their favourite toy on Wednesday 11th September so they can use it for their mark making. Note: one item only that is named.

Forest Inspired Learning

On Friday 27th September we will be starting Forest Inspired Learning and this will take place every Friday morning. Your child will need to come to school in appropriate outdoor weatherproof clothes but they need to wear their school shoes to school, once we are ready for the session the children will change into their wellingtons. Forest Inspired Learning takes place no matter the weather. Your child will need to bring their school clothes with them to change into after the session. Your child's wellingtons need to be in school by this date.

Pick up and drop off arrangements

When picking up and dropping off your child please stand by the red posts and allow your child to go in and come out, this is so we all have a clear view of the children. If your child is struggling to come in on their own, please wait with your child by the red posts until all the children have come in and then an adult from Silver Class will come out to take your child in. My door is always open for a quick chat, however please see your child in and wait by the red posts until the outside area is clearing before coming over to the door, this ensures all children can safely come in or out of the door.

Behaviour Chart

At Ditton Infant School, we have a 7 step behaviour system. The children in Silver Class start the week in the middle of the chart on the tree. If their behaviour exceeds expectations, they will move up 1 step onto the first beehive and receive a sticker from their teacher. If they continue to exceed expectations, they will move to the second beehive and receive a sticker from Mrs Boxall. Finally, if they continue to make good choices, they will move onto the Golden Book and receive a Golden Certificate and sticker from Mrs Lewer, our Headteacher. Children can move up for using the Characteristics of Effective Learning, being a good role-model, being a kind friend, sharing fairly and challenging themselves.

However, if the children break the 'Golden Rules,' they are required to have 5 minutes thinking time. If they continue to break the rules, they will go to a buddy class to receive a 10 minute time out and parents will be informed at the end of the day. If they move down for the third time, they will be sent to Mrs Lewer or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Water and fruit

In the classroom we are only allowed to drink plain water which will be accessible throughout the day for your child to drink at their leisure, we will encourage the children to drink as much water as they can especially in snack time. The school provides a fruit snack; the children will be given a choice of fruit, however you may provide your own piece of fruit.

PE

Our PE day is on a **Monday** this term, please ensure all earrings are removed beforehand and PE kit is in school so your child can take part (PE kit is a white top and black shorts, for Term 1 the children do not need plimsolls).

Parent Reps

If you are interested in becoming a 'Parent Rep' for Reception and are available to meet with the Headteacher on a termly basis to discuss the views of other parents, please let me know ASAP.

Reminders and Information

Your child will be doing half a day this week, half a day with lunch next week and will start full time (8.50am -3.00pm) from Monday 23rd September.

Dates

- 1st Class School photos for the KM will be on 24th September
- Individual school photos will be on 1st October.
- We will be delivering a Phonics Workshop to parents on 9th October at 2pm to share how we teach phonics. More information will follow.
- We will be running a Harvest themed Stay and Play on 3rd October.
- Parents' Evening will be on 15th and 17th October from 3.30-6.30pm.

We look forward to a very exciting year! ☺

Miss McGinley, Mrs Carter and Mrs Cox