

### **Bags**

We have provided your child with a dark green book bag. Please could they use this only for books and letters. Could water bottles be carried outside of this to avoid leaks on the books.

### **Parent Contact**

If you need to inform your child's class teacher of any appointments or small matters, please do so when you bring your child to school in the morning, or collect your child at the end of the day. If you do not bring or collect your child, please phone the office and leave a message or send a note with your child. If you wish to talk to your child's class teacher for more than a couple of minutes, please make an appointment to meet with her at a more convenient time for you both. You will be able to discuss your child's academic progress more formally at Parent Consultation evenings in the Autumn and Spring terms and you will also receive information via Tapestry and an end of year written report. Once the children have settled there will be an opportunity for you to spend a morning and have lunch with us if you wish. We also offer 'Stay and Do' sessions in the Spring and Summer Terms. We will keep you up to date with our events through half termly EYFS Newsletters, Working and Learning Together books or, alternatively you may like to visit our website on **[www.westend.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.westend.northumberland.sch.uk)** If at any time you have any concerns about your child or questions about his/her school life, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Holidays**

If, for any exceptional circumstances, you are planning a holiday during term time please complete a holiday request form (available from the office) and return it to school as soon as possible. Please note absences for holidays will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Welcome to  
Reception Year  
With  
Miss Porter & Mrs Bell  
Mrs Milne



In Reception we will be learning through play in the following 7 Areas. Three Prime areas and four specific areas -

Personal, Social and Emotional Development  
Communication and Language  
Physical Development

Literacy  
Mathematics  
Understanding of the World  
Expressive Arts and Design

These will be covered through the following blocks of learning -  
Autumn 1 - **Ourselves** The school photographer comes in September  
We will also have a harvest celebration at the church

Autumn 2 - **Health and well-Being Week (whole school theme)**

Autumn 2 - **Autumn Celebrations**

Autumn 2 - **Christmas**

This topic includes a visit to the Northern Stage on 5th December (which is usually funded by the PTFA and the Council) the nativity production and Christmas parties (which you are asked to provide a small amount of food for).

Spring 1 - **Winter**

Spring 1 - **Traditional tales - Goldilocks and the Three Bears**

Spring 1 - **Chinese New Year**

Spring 2 - **Themed Writing Week (whole school theme)**

Spring 2 - **Traditional Tales - The Gingerbread Man** This topic includes a dressing up fairy-tale ball at the end

Spring 2 - **Spring and Easter**

Summer 1 - **In Our Town**

This topic includes a walk down Bedlington Front Street

Summer 1 - **The Wider World**

Summer 2 - **Minibeasts**

Summer 2 - **In the Countryside**

This topic includes a visit to Plessey Woods (usually costing around £3.00 for the coach).

**In Literacy** we will be working on reading and writing through the Jolly Phonics Scheme and learning some words by sight.

**In Mathematics** we will be learning to count, recognise numbers and calculate. We will be developing vocabulary associated with shape, space and measure.

We will also be following the interests of the children, which may mean the planning we make available changes at short notice.

**Reception PE days are as follows** -Tuesday afternoon

In the Autumn term we will be using this session to develop large motor skills and teaching your child to change into their kit. We will be building up to formal PE sessions in the Spring term.

In the Spring term your child will need sandshoes, shorts and top in a PE bag. We keep these at school on their peg and return them at the end of each half term unless you request them earlier. Please label every item of clothing. For health and safety reasons please remove any small earrings your child may wear.

**Lunch**

Lunch is free for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. You can pre-order with your child online from home for a day, week or three weeks in advance, alternatively your child can choose in school each morning. The form is in your pack, alternately please see Mrs Markham-Lee in the office for details. If you are entitled to free school meals you may still wish to apply for this as it entitles your child to free milk and music tuition. Again the forms are in the pack or please contact the office.

**Homework**

In order to support your child's learning please could you spend 5 to 10 minutes with them each day going through their blue Jolly Phonics books and reading books. The children will need these books each day. The children will also bring home their 'Learning Together Book' each holiday. We will include some pieces of work which the children have completed at school and some ideas for you to use to support this at home. You may also want to add things you have worked on. They will need to return this after each holiday.

**Learning Journals**

We will be building an on-line Learning Journal (via Tapestry) with your child over the course of the year, which will include examples of learning in school, such as photos and short video clips. We hope you will be able to share some of your child's learning at home with us too. There is the opportunity for you to download this as a PDF file at the end of the year. If you should need any further support to set this up please see a member of staff. Forms, again are in the pack or please see the class teacher.