



Canon Burrows Primary School Reception Newsletter Autumn 1



Welcome to the Canon Burrows family! Each half term you will receive a Reception newsletter with key dates (whole school dates come separately).

This half term, we are helping the children to settle in and exploring the topic '**What makes me unique?**' The children will learn about themselves, their families, and how we are all similar and different.

For more details on our learning and the books we will be reading, please visit the Early Years page on the school website. Follow us on X [@canon_burrows](#) for updates.

Autumn 1 - What makes me unique?

During the first few weeks, we will complete a **baseline assessment** to understand your child's starting point. This half term, we will focus on developing the children's communication and language by encouraging them to share their feelings and needs, listen to stories, ask questions, talk to friends and adults, learn names, and join in with a class poem for *Poetry X Factor*.

In personal, social and emotional development, the children will explore feelings using the Zones of Regulation, practise calming strategies, learn to follow routines, learn about handwashing, healthy eating and drinking water, and begin to brush their teeth each day.

For physical development, the children will practise putting on and taking off their coats, work on ball and balancing skills, and strengthen their hands using tools and through Dough Disco.

In phonics, we will be learning some Phase 2 sounds (s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r h b f l) and tricky words (is, I, the).

In English, we will enjoy retelling stories and practising mark-making, drawing, early writing, writing names and applying phonic skills.

In maths, the children will sing number songs, explore positional language, and work on matching, sorting, comparing and identifying patterns.

During understanding the world, we will explore the local area and seasonal changes, talk about families and communities, learning about similarities and differences, and take part in role play. Our RE topic will support us in this as we think about 'Being special: where do we belong?'

In expressive arts and design, the children will learn to use art resources carefully, draw and paint self-portraits, mix colours, create seasonal crafts, sing songs, explore instruments, and join in imaginative play.

DATES TO REMEMBER

(More information on these dates will be sent out soon).

10th September: Meet the teacher

23rd September: Reception welcome service at Christ Church

24th September: Numbots Day

28th September-1st October: Reception Phonics workshops

30th September: School Photographs

2nd October: Poetry Voice and performance to parents

13th October: RE Day

21st October: Harvest appeal

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Please put your children's name in everything: clothes, book bag, coats, shoes, wellies and water bottles. Please also send in some spare underwear and socks in a named freezer bag to keep in school.



Please send water bottles each day, filled with **water only**.



Please send book bags into school every day. The children will visit the school library on a Thursday and bring a new library book home each week. **Please do not put your child's water bottle inside their bag in case of leakages!**



Healthy snacks are provided in EYFS - please do not send in your own.



When your child brings home their first reading book, please aim for them to read it at least five times during the week and enjoy being read to as often as possible. This could be a favourite story, a library book, or even something fun like a magazine or recipe! Don't forget to record all reading in your child's reading diary—this is part of our home learning expectation in Reception. We will also send home phonics information each week on School Spider to help you support your child with what we have been learning in class.



We are only at the end of the phone or email - if you have any concerns, please get in touch.



Thursday is our PE day with the sports coach. Children should come to school in their PE kit on this day: blue shorts or black/blue joggers, yellow t-shirt and trainers/pumps.



RESPONSIBILITY



*'If you are responsible
with a little, you may
get a lot.'*

Matthew 25:23

This half term, we will be focusing on our Christian value of **Responsibility**.

'If you are responsible with a little, you may get a lot.'

Matthew 25:23

Responsibility in the Bible

Responsibility is a core concept in the Bible and encompasses being accountable for your own actions as well as your obligations to God, others, and yourself.

Examples of responsibility in the Bible:

Jonah is given the responsibility of delivering God's message to the people of Nineveh.

Moses is given the responsibility of sharing the Ten Commandments with the Israelites and leading them into the Promised Land.

Prayer for Responsibility

Father God

Help me to be responsible in all that I do

To own my mistakes

And to act in a way that honours You,

Your Creation,

Others

And myself.

Amen

How can you show responsibility?

- By tidying up my toys, books and other belongings at home when I have finished using them.
- By helping out with simple chores at home, like putting dirty clothes in the washing basket or setting the table.
- By caring for pets or plants at home.
- By putting on my own clothes, coat and shoes.

