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Early Years Newsletter
Date: Monday 22nd September 2025

Hello and welcome to St Wilfrid’s, we hope your child has had a happy return or welcome to school and are beginning to feel more settled in Reception and becoming more familiar with our daily routines. This newsletter is to let you know what we will be learning about this half term and any important information we need to share with you.

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| Meet your Early Years Team!    Mrs KokockiTeaching AssistantMiss Williams Early Years TeacherMrs. West Early Years Leader and Teacher Miss CurtinTeaching AssistantMiss JonesSEN Teaching AssistantMrs ChamTeaching Assistant |

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| **WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT ME?**This half term our topic is; What do I know about me? Within this topic we will be focusing on Personal, Social and Emotional Development and also Communication and Language as a starting point to settling your child into Reception. We will be focusing on what your child likes and dislikes, what they look like, where they live and who is in their family. This topic aims to help us find out more about each other and also settle them into their new environment. In order to be able to answer our Prime question we have generated weekly questions and we will focus on answering these questions over the next six weeks.* What do I look like?
* What can I do with my body?
* Who is in my family?
* Where do I live?
* What do I like and dislike?

During the first few weeks we will initially focus on the Prime areas of Learning; Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language (CL) and Physical development (PD) before moving onto the Specific areas of learning. Throughout the half tern we will provide you with additional information liked to these areas. |

This half term we will be focusing on ensuring your child has the opportunity to achieve the following outcomes. We will provide activities during carpet time sessions, adult led activities and within the daily continuous provision to ensure they learn new skills and have the opportunity to apply what they have been taught. Practising skills is vital in embedding and becoming confident learners.

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| PSED* I am aware of my own feelings, and know that some actions and words can hurt others’ feelings.
* I can accept the needs of others and I can take turns and share resources, sometimes with support from others.
* I am confident to talk to other children when playing, and will communicate freely

about my home and community.* I am beginning to understand similarities and differences between myself and others.
* I can demonstrate friendly behaviour, initiating conversations and form good relationships with friends and familiar adults.
 | CLL* I can turn to listen to my friends or my teacher.
* I can listen to and then follow an instruction.
* I can follow a story with props and pictures.
* I can explain in simple sentences, including ordering, stating what happened and what might happen.
* I can use vocabulary to express imaginary events in play.
* I can engage in imaginary role play sometimes building stories around toys and objects.
 | PD* I can use a pincer grasp.
* I can make snips in paper using child friendly scissors.
* I can stand momentarily on one foot when shown.
* I can catch a large ball or object.
* I can move freely and with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping.
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After the initial transition period, we will begin focusing on the specific areas of learning.

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| **IMPORTANT INFORMATION*** Start and finish times - Once all children become full time, the children all attend school from 8.45am until 3.05pm each day. It is important that you child is on time to school as vital phonics sessions are at the start of the day. A late mark is given after 9.00am.
* Baseline Assessments –over the next two weeks we will be completing the Government’s Reception Baseline. This is to assess the level your child is currently working at. We also assess all children’s Speech and language skills to ensure we are teaching at the correct level for individual children. This will be completed by The Speech Bubble’s therapist Amy. Attached is a consent form please can you complete the form and return it to school on Monday 15th September.
* Water bottles – please can you provide your child with a water bottle each day so that they can have a drink of water during the school day. Following the school policy children are to only drink plain water whilst at school, they are not allowed juice, fizzy drinks or flavoured water.
* Snack money – we ask parents to contribute £3.00 each half term towards the cost of snack. This money contributes towards the cost of weekly snack, baking, food tasting and play dough ingredients and other learning opportunities. Please can all parents pay this as soon as possible, if you are unsure whether you have paid or not please see a member of staff.
* Book bags – your child will receive a school book bag which needs to be brought into school each day. Initially it will contain letters from schools and pictures they have created during the day. These should be emptied daily and the bag returned the next day. Once reading books have been issued to your child these should also be sent into school daily so that we can listen to them read and change books when appropriate.
* Uniform – please can you make sure all uniform is labelled with your child’s full name and this includes a sensible coat for the changing seasons. The weather changes quickly and your child will be spending large periods of the day outside so it is important they always have their coat with them. During periods of hot weather please can you make sure they have a sun hat in school and are wearing sun cream.
* Earrings – although children can wear earrings in school please can you make sure they are studs. Hoops and dangly earrings are not allowed for health and safety reasons.
* PE and Dance – Both sessions are led by external providers and provide the children with excellent progressive skills as they move through the school year. Dance takes place every Thursday afternoon and is led by our dance teacher, Anna. PE will take place every Friday afternoon and is led by Manchester City. PE kits are not required for Dance but for PE sessions on a Friday, we ask that children come to school wearing a plain t-shirt, school jumper, plain shorts, leggings or joggers and a pair of trainers.
* Medicines – if your child has any health issues and requires medicine or an inhaler throughout the school day please can you sign this in with the office and staff can administer when needed.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*** Half Term – Friday 24th October 2025, school will be opening again on Monday 3rd November 2025. All school holidays can be found on our school website!
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| READING AND HOMEWORK Once your child has started daily phonics (Read, Write Inc) they will begin to bring home letter sounds, reading books and letter formation worksheets each week to practise at home. Handwriting sheets and formation guides do not need to be returned to school they can be used to support your child at home throughout the year. We ask that you read daily with your child to enable them to become a confident reader. Staff aim to read with your child at least once per week..Topic related homework activities will also be sent out where appropriate throughout the academic year. This will enhance your child’s learning or will offer pre-teaching for topics. Homework will usually be sent out on a Friday and will be expected to be completed on the following Tuesday.  |

We hope this information has been helpful, any questions please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff. Thank you for your support,

Early Years Staff