



# Welcome to Reception



A warm welcome to all of our Reception children, parents, carers and Miss Williams, our trainee teacher. We are so proud of how well the children have settled in so far. Despite any first day nerves, the children have exceeded all expectations. A big well done to everyone! We are so excited to spend the year with you! Mrs Hollington, Mrs Hollis, Mr Horton, Mrs Rattu, Mrs Orbart and Mrs Atkar



This year children will be working towards the updated Early Learning Goals (ELGs). If you would like to find out a little more, please [click here](#), or please email us at [reception@westfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:reception@westfield.staffs.sch.uk)

**'Fast fact': In Reception we learn how to express our feelings and consider the feelings of others to build constructive and respectful relationships.**



This half term, our topic is: **Marvellous Me**

Here is some information on how we will support the children through the 7 areas of learning:

## Communication and Language

We will develop listening skills by taking part in small group and whole class discussions, activities and turn taking games.

## Physical Development

*PE sessions in Reception will be every Wednesday morning.*

We will be focusing on using our bodies to move in different ways, developing control, co-ordination and spatial awareness with consideration for ourselves and others.

In the classroom, we will be exploring activities to strengthen and refine our fine motor muscles in readiness for some super writing!



## Maths

We will practise counting in different ways to 20 and beyond, and begin to notice patterns in numbers. We will use these skills to count a set of objects reliably by touching each object.

We will learn to identify numerals and practise recognising amounts without counting (subitising) e.g. dots on dice.

Compare size, mass and capacity using ambitious vocabulary such as, more, less and equal.

## Expressive Arts and Design



We will explore famous self portraits and create our own using a range of media.

We will use props to act out different scenarios in our role-play areas: home corner and dental surgery.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will be spending time focusing on the children's mental health and well-being as they settle into Reception. We will use the story, 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas to support discussions on our feelings and how different situations may make us or our friends feel. Each class will have a role-play area for the children to explore, containing sensory bottles to reflect a variety of emotions and feelings.

## Literacy

Each day we will promote a love of reading as we share stories and books as a whole class during story time. Our focus texts will be: 'Guess How Much I Love you?', 'Elmer' and 'All About Families'.

Verbally, re-tell stories and begin to order events to re-tell our own stories.

In readiness for super writing, we will develop and strengthen our fine motor skills at our 'Funky Fingers' station and playdough area.

## Understanding The World

We will learn about how to keep our bodies healthy and role-play scenarios including brushing teeth, washing hands and exercising to keep fit. They will also use their favourite fruits to create and enjoy a healthy fruit salad.

We will become 'nature explorers' as they search the school grounds for signs of Autumn.



We will share photographs of our families and talk about our own lives and the lives of others.

# HOME LEARNING

We would be so excited to see any writing, maths and creative activities you have been doing at home. When brought into school we will encourage the children to take part in 'show and tell' to the class. If you would like to explore our 'Marvellous Me' topic here are some ideas (but please feel free to use your own ideas too):



Draw or paint a picture of your family or someone who is special to you. What makes them special?



What qualities make a good friend?  
Get an adult to help you write a list.



Make a model of a body.  
E.g. using playdough—take a picture and bring it to show us. What parts of the body have you included?



Help to make food that is special to your family.  
Share the recipe or show us a picture of you enjoying the food.



Paint the handprints of your family.  
Can you put them in size order? Who has the biggest hands?



How do you keep healthy? Keep an activity log of all the physical activities you do over the week. This could include walking to school, scooting, dancing or swimming lessons etc.