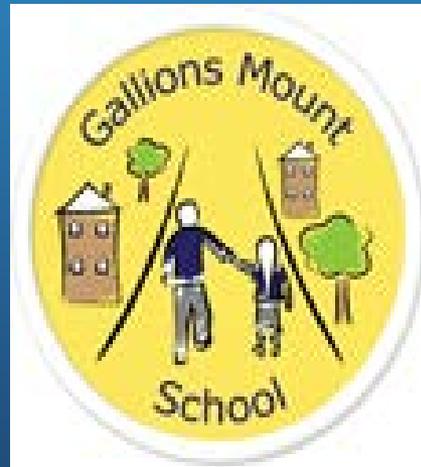


Welcome to Gallions Mount Primary School Reception Parents Meeting 2018-2019



Please switch off/silence mobile phones.

Meet our Reception Team!

Curie Class

Sarah Schutz - Early Years Leader & Curie Class Teacher



Samantha Blackett - Curie Class Teaching Assistant



Meet our Reception Team! Einstein Class

Julia Wall - Einstein Class Teacher (Monday-Wednesday)



Marie Crawford - Einstein Class Teacher (Thursday-Friday)



Jenny Verillo - Einstein Class Teaching Assistant



Meet our Reception Team!

Natalie Betts - Reception Teaching Assistant



Kalid Ahmed - Bilingual Support Assistant



Aims of the meeting

- To explain what will happen when your child starts at Gallions Mount School and our school and parent expectations.
- To explain the daily routine in Reception and how we learn in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.
- To discuss home visits, uniform and do our best to answer any concerns and questions you may have.

Stay & Play

- After the meeting today, you and your child are very welcome to come along to a stay and play in our Reception.
- You will be able to come and see the Reception, meet the staff and spend some time getting to know us, the environment and the children.
- You will also be invited to another Stay and Play date in the later part of the summer term.

Your welcome packs and settling information

- You will have been given your welcome packs as you were seated.
- The packs contain your child's class, starting dates and settling in procedures, home visit date and your entry forms, which need to be read carefully, filled out fully and returned to Mrs Gillard in the school office.

Home Visits

- In September, we will be visiting each child in their home. (home visit date is in your pack)
- This is for the teachers to see the child in their own surroundings, where they are often much more comfortable.
- The visits will last no more than 30 minutes and two teachers will be at each visit.
- Please call the school office on 0208 854 2691 to confirm your appointment. We will give you a call on the morning of your home visit to confirm that you are expecting us.

Home Visits

- On each visit, the teacher will talk to and play with your child to learn a little more about them and gain an understanding of their interests.
- There will be a few short questions for you to answer regarding lunch preferences, other languages spoken, medical or learning needs that your child has and any concerns that you or your child may have about starting school.
- You will be introduced to your child's key person too.

Starting School and Settling

- Your child's class name, teacher and start date are in your welcome packs and there is a gradual settling process, to ensure that the children build up their confidence and familiarity with school and begin their journey happy and comfortable.
- This is all flexible to individual needs and if your child is not settling, we encourage you to stay with them as they need to feel happy and secure at school.

Settling procedure

- We ask you to stay for 1 hour on the first day, to settle your child into Reception and help them become familiar with the setting. Please show your child around the classrooms especially the toilets, the drinks/fruit table and their coat pegs.
- Your child will return every day this week and stay in Reception alone if they are happy.
- Please note that the first two days (for group 1s) start at 9am, however by Wednesday 12th September school starts at the usual time of 8.50am.
- Transition from Nursery and Visits: We have the stay and play after today's meeting and will invite you to another towards the end of the summer term. We will also be visiting your child in their Nursery settings too.

Settling procedure

- On Friday 14th September children will stay for their first full day in school 8.50am-3.15pm.
- School gates open at 8.50am and close at 9am. Please ensure that you are always on time at the beginning and end of school, to ensure that your child has the best possible start and end to their day.
- If your child struggles with any of the settling in please talk to a member of the team.

Routines

- School starts at 8.50am and finishes at 3.15pm.
- A member of the Reception staff will be there to greet you at the door each morning and for you to keep us updated with anything that may affect your child whilst in school e.g an upset, sleep, different person collecting (must be named on collection form and we must be introduced or see a photo.)
- Children are encouraged from the beginning to be independent, and after settling will enter the classroom by themselves, hang up belongings and access all resources.
- At home time at 3.15pm, we expect that you are on time, as young children find it very distressing waiting for their parents.
- We have a breakfast club that starts at 8.00am and an after school club. Details in your packs.

Fruit, Milk and Water

- The children have access to a self-service table throughout the day, whereby they can select fruit and a choice of water or milk.
- Children can bring in their own bottle of water (no other drinks are allowed). Please make sure the bottle is labeled with your child's name.

Lunchtime

- Our school dinners are cooked on site and our menu is sent out at the start of the term, and can be found on our website.
- As your child is under 7 years of age, you do not have to pay for school dinners. They are currently free of charge for infants. (introduced from September 2014)
- You may wish to provide your child with a packed lunch and we ask you to remember that we are a healthy school, so lunches should contain healthy choices (please see leaflet in your pack) NO NUTS OR DRINKS.
- We have lunch at 11:45 and water is provided in the lunch hall.

Uniform and Clothing

- Black/Grey skirt or trousers (gingham dress or grey/black knee length shorts may be worn for summer)
- White polo shirt
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan
- Children must wear black shoes and for children in the Early Years, Velcro shoes are a lot easier to take on and off for the children, unless they can do their own laces.
- Trainers and tracksuit bottoms are not considered to be appropriate school uniform.
- School jumper with logo (£8 to purchase at the school office)
- School cardigan with logo (£9 to purchase at the school office)

Jewellery and PE kits

- In Reception, we will not be starting PE until the summer term but if you wish to prepare your child's PE kit in advance, they will need a white t-shirt and well-fitting shorts or leggings.
- Please ensure all items of clothing are labeled clearly and permanently with your child's name.
- Children may wear small stud earrings, but these will need to be removed or covered for PE lessons due to health and safety. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Nail varnish and make up should not be worn at school and we ask that children are sent to school with tidy hair that is not dyed or coloured.

Procedures for purchasing uniform

- You will have a uniform order form in your packs and can place your uniform order between now and the last day of term on 20th July.
- On 27th August, the school office will be open between 10am and 1pm for parents to collect their orders.
- You can also purchase school book bags and PE kit bags at the school office. Children only need to bring a book folder into Nursery and school. No backpacks or other bags are needed.
- School book bags are:
- School PE kit bags are:

Play Outside in all Weathers and Messy Play

- We play outside in all weathers, so please always send your child in with a waterproof coat and if you choose for your child to wear wellington boots into school in wetter weather, please ensure that they have their school shoes in a bag to change into.
- Your child will be taking part in lots of interesting and sometimes messy experiences, so they may come home dirty! It's all part of the fun!
- Please ensure that your child has a spare set of clothes in Reception, in a bag labeled with their name.

Attendance and Medical Matters

- The time your child spends in Nursery and Reception are the foundations of their learning, developing the building blocks and skills for life.
- It is therefore so important that your child attends school everyday and that they are on time.
- If your child is poorly with sickness or diarrhea, they must stay at home for 48 hours after their last symptoms.
- Any absence requires a note or telephone call to the school office (0208 8542691) explaining why.
- If your child becomes ill during the day, we will make contact with you immediately. Please ensure all contact numbers are available throughout the school day and kept up to date.

The 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage

- In Nursery and Reception there are 7 areas of learning.

The Prime Areas: these will ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and forming relationships and form the basis for successful learning in the other 4 areas.

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

The Specific Areas: : these areas will always be present but are covered more equally once children are confident in the prime areas.

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Characteristics of Effective Learning

- Playing and Exploring - do they investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'?
- Learning Actively - do they concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements?
- Creating and Thinking Critically - do they have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

In the Moment Planning

- We teach and record learning using 'In the Moment Planning'.
- This ensures that the setting is more child-led. Our daily provision and equipment is structured in order to ensure that the children are given more free choice during play. This facilitates a more enabling environment and allows the children to explore and investigate through their play.
- You, as parents have great involvement in our planning structure and this gives you a more in-depth sight into your child's foundation stage experience.

Parent sheet

Planning for your child's learning journey



Parents' contribution to focus week. Name

Wk. beg

Next week we will be focussing on . We will be observing them while they play to find out more about their interests and how they are progressing. Please take some pictures (no more than 10) of your child/family enjoying activities out of our setting. We value the knowledge and understanding you have of your child and would really appreciate it if you would share this with us so that together we can plan activities to meet your child's needs. This will help us to plan for their future learning and development.

Is there anything significant anything significant happening in your child's life at the moment e.g. visits, holidays, new pets, family celebrations? Is there anything you would like to tell us about your child?

Do you have anything you would like to ask us about your child's progress and development?

Please return this form to school on Monday..... so that we can add your thoughts and ideas to the planning process.

Please send any photos to reception@gallionsmount.greenwich.sch.uk

We work in this way because ...

- “Babies and young children are experiencing and learning in the here and now, not storing up their questions until tomorrow or next week. It is in that moment of curiosity, puzzlement, effort or interest – the ‘teachable moment’ – that the skilful adult makes a difference. By using this cycle on a moment-by-moment basis, the adult will be always alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child’s thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children’s well-being and learning (planning for the next moment).”

From National Standards document Learning, Playing and Interacting P.22 - 23

The revised EYFS advises us to continue using this document

- We have focus children
- NOT focus activities.

The adult goes to the child. The child is NOT called to come to the adult.

We work this way because high-level involvement occurs in child-initiated activity.

Progress and Development

- When children show high levels of involvement, that is when there is progress and development occurring - when the brain is at its most active. High level involvement occurs most often when children are able to pursue their own interests in an enabling environment supported by skilled staff. Planning in the moment helps to make this possible.
- With a system of focus children, a workshop style environment and records kept on planning sheets and learning journeys, the children are learning effectively all the time!!

The Power of Play

Play engages children's bodies, minds and emotions. In playing children can learn to interact with others and be part of a community, to experience and manage feelings, and to be in control and confident about themselves and their abilities. Play can help children to develop these positive dispositions for learning:

- finding an interest and being willing to explore, experiment and try things out
- • knowing when, how and where to seek help and being inventive - creating problems, and finding solutions
- • being flexible - testing and refining solutions being engaged and involved - concentrating, sustaining interest, persevering with a task, even when it is challenging
- • making choices and decisions
- • making plans and knowing how to carry them out
- • playing and working collaboratively with peers and adults
- • managing self, managing others and developing 'can-do' orientations to learning
- • being resilient - finding alternative strategies if things don't always go as planned
- • understanding the perspectives and emotions of other people.

Assessment

- Baseline at beginning of Reception
- Throughout the year the children in Reception will be assessed on the Early Learning Goals.
- The Early Learning Goals are explained further in the 4children booklet (details at end) and form the basis of planning and the activities within the foundation stage.
- You will be informed of your child's progress through parent meetings and you will receive an end of year report on how your child is developing in relation to the Early Learning Goals. The report will explain if your child is at expected levels, exceeding them, or emerging into the level.
- You will also be informed how your child is progressing with regards to the three characteristics of effective learning.

Assessment

- The cycle of observation, assessment, planning, observation is carried out on a moment-by-moment basis.
- We have focus children each week. Around 2-3 children each week.
- Every child in Nursery and Reception have a Key Person and you will be introduced to your child's key person on their home visit.
- As part of the assessment process, we make observations and take photographs of the children learning. These are then added to the child's learning journey, which they can access all the time at school and we share them with you too.
- As a school we also have a Twitter and Facebook account, which are used to celebrate the good work that the children and the school are doing. You will receive consent forms in your packs and during home visits to ensure that we have your permission to share photographs and observations with other professionals and on our website. (General Data Protection Regulations from 25th May 2018)

Parents as Partners

- We value you immensely as your child's first teacher and there are lots of ways that you can share wow moments and photos from home with us in school.
- You will have daily face-to face communication with the Reception staff and termly focus meetings to discuss your child's learning journey and progress.
- You can email us at: reception@gallionsmount.greenwich.sch.uk
- Through your child's reading record, kept in their book folder each day. We expect you to read with your child daily and comment on their reading in their record books. A minimum of 3 comments in your child's reading record a week. Super readers stickers.
- Through our fortnightly newsletter.
 - Keep an eye on the website for photos, key dates and all school information and parent mail. www.gallionsmount.greenwich.sch.uk

How you can help

- Attendance & punctuality. Gates are closed 10 mins after the start of the session.
- Labelling all clothing and providing spare clothing.
- Book folders in every day and read with your child every day.
- Keep us informed; so we can be aware and adapt to your child's needs
- Keep contact details up to date and one phone switched on all day.
- Introduce person collecting child on regular basis. Contact the school office if someone different will be collecting.
- Please ensure that your child is supervised before school and brought to their classroom by an adult every day.
- Children must be collected by a responsible adult (as named on collection form)

Things to practice/do over the summer

- Going to the toilet independently;
- Getting dressed by themselves; (model coat trick)
- Using a knife and fork;
- Blowing their nose and washing their hands;
- Practice listening skills when out and about and make time for listening and speaking together, sharing your day, talking about what your child has seen and has been doing.
- Share stories and books together. Reading Meeting will follow in the Autumn.

4children booklet

What to expect, when?

- You can go to www.actionforchildren.org.uk and download a booklet produced by 4children and supported by the Department for Education.
- The booklet is to help you as a parent/carer to find out more about how your child is learning and developing during their first five years, in relation to the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Children develop more rapidly during the first five years of their lives than at any other time. This booklet has been written to help you as a parent know what to expect during these vitally important years.

**Thank you very much for
coming!**

**Please come and see us if you
have any concerns or questions
and we look forward to
welcoming you to our stay and**



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