

# Rumboldswyke Church of England Primary School

*Part of the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership*

**'Love life, love learning, love God's world'**

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Head of School - Mrs Lisa Harris [head@rumboldswyke.org.uk](mailto:head@rumboldswyke.org.uk)



## **Year R Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term – Mrs Wilson and Mrs Harris.**

Welcome to the Rumboldswyke school community! We are really pleased with the happy and settled start the children have made in Reception. Thank you for your support during these first few weeks of term.

Your child's year in Reception lays the foundations for the rest of their school journey. We hope that a close partnership between you and the school will provide your child with the security and confidence they need to ensure that they have a positive learning experience. We hope that you, as a group of parents, will also enjoy getting to know one another over the coming weeks and months.

### **Morning Routines:**

We have been very impressed with how confidently the children have taken to the routine of coming through the blue gate by themselves. Upon entering the classroom, they are taking responsibility for sorting out their belongings before settling to their early morning activity. This is an important step forwards in encouraging the development of their independence and organisational skills.

Each morning, your child participates in a 'Funky Fingers' activity. This involves a variety of different fun activities that focus on fine and gross motor skills. They encourage the children to develop dexterity in their shoulder, elbow and wrist joints along with their hands and fingers, with the intention of developing a good 'pencil grip' as well as more control over their pencil when writing. Activities include using resources such as tweezers, scissors, tea-spoons, pegs and picking up small things with their fingers.



We would like to invite you to come into school for the six weeks in, 'stay and play' session with your child on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 8.45 until 9.30ish.** You might even get to have a go at Funky Fingers or Squiggle While you Wiggle whilst you are here! We will put a signing-up sheet out from next Friday (30<sup>th</sup> September) so that we can see who is able to come.

### **Classroom organisation:**

The children have been placed into animal groups. This is just to aid organisation, our transition times and flow around the classroom, for example: "Zebras, please go and get your things ready for home." or "Lions, you may go and start your Discovery Time."



### **PE:**

Mrs Topley and Mrs Knight our PE teachers from Bishop Luffa have spent several afternoons in the classroom and have enjoyed getting to know the children. We would like to ask that all children have their PE kits in school in preparation for PE lessons where they will need to change.

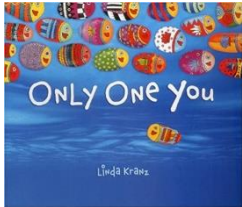
### **The Early Years Foundation Stage information:**

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is organised into seven areas of learning. There are opportunities for your child to engage in adult led learning experiences, and times when your child initiates activities and learning for themselves, which is known by the children as 'Discovery Time'. In Reception, we ensure that your child has opportunities to learn in both our indoor and outdoor classroom, as well as within the school grounds.

## Curriculum organisation:

Each time we begin a new learning experience, we will send home an overview of the areas of learning and curriculum content that the children will be studying. This is delivered through short teaching inputs. The children then work with an adult in small groups to complete activities. This way, we are able to tailor activities to the children's needs; supporting, challenging and extending their learning as appropriate.

We started our learning back at the beginning of term with the book 'Only One You' by Linda Kranz. There is a powerful page within the book:



**'There is only one you in this great big world...make it a better place to be.'**

Learning throughout the first two weeks, focused on the children engaging in activities which explored friendship, our similarities and differences and being unique. This was the springboard for our Learning Experience for this half term - 'Who Am I?'

Next week we will be underway with the second stage which is based around the wonderful book; 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas. It is a beautiful book which will give the children the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings whilst reflecting on different emotions that we experience. Please read below to find out what else we will be learning this half term.



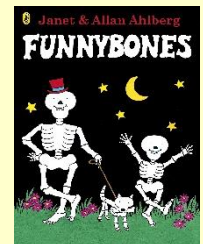
### Literacy – Reading, Writing and Comprehension

In phonics, we will begin to learn the Set 1 sounds in the following order – m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u and f.

We will continue to use the resources in school such as clipboards, writing belts and the message centre to explore meaningful mark-making and early writing.

We will enjoy sharing lots of stories and discussing new vocabulary that we encounter.

### Other quality texts which will be used to enhance learning:



### Understanding the World

We will learn about our bodies and how they work, including identifying, naming, and labelling parts of the body. We will also learn what the main parts of our body do.

## Who Am I?



### Expressive arts and design

We have been experimenting with drawing facial features using sketching pencils. Then we will use what we have learnt to create a self-portrait.

### Maths – The children will learn to:

Find and match objects.

Sort objects into sets based on attributes such as colour, size or shape.

Compare groups of identical objects.

We will talk about: What is the same? What is different?

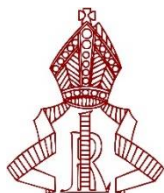
We will use the vocabulary: 'more than', 'fewer than', 'equal to', 'the same as'.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will reflect upon the people in our lives that are special to us.

Who is in my family? What do I like to do with my family?

We will reflect upon how we all like different things and we can still be friends.



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## **Gentle Reminders:**

- This term will get cold and wet, so we would like to remind you that your child needs to bring a warm, waterproof coat to school every day, as during the Reception Year, the children are given the opportunity to learn outside whatever the weather!
- All the children in Year R receive a free fruit (or sometimes a vegetable) snack each day which is eaten at story time at the end of the day. If, however, you would like to provide your own snack for your child to have mid-morning, we do ask that it is fresh fruit or dried fruit (such as raisins or apricots), or a vegetable (such as carrots). Biscuits, snack bars and sandwiches are not allowed. Thank you for your support with this. Labelling any snacks brought in from home are with your child's name would be very helpful.
- Please also make certain that your child's name is clearly visible in all of their clothing, as this will enable them to find their own belongings. Water bottles also need to be easily identified, however, we realise that this can sometimes rub off when cleaned, so it would be helpful if you could check that your child's name is still clearly visible it would be very helpful.

## **Ideas for supporting your child's learning:**

- Now and again, we will send home discussion challenges on SeeSaw which are things to talk about as a family. Please do spend some time together as a family, asking and answering the discussion questions.

We hope that the children will gain many rich learning experiences throughout the busy and exciting year ahead. If you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything, please chat to one of us at drop-off/pick-up times, or telephone the office to make an appointment if it is more convenient.

With very best wishes,  
Mrs Wilson and Mrs Harris