



Minchinhampton Church of England Primary Academy

Pupils with a love of learning who care about others.

School Road Minchinhampton Stroud Gloucestershire GL6 9BP

# Welcome to Reception / Year 1

# Class Structure

We have three classes in Reception/Y1.

**Midnight Class** – Mrs Bugg and Mrs Shepherd

**Teal Class** – Ms Gittins and Miss Purnell

**Aqua Class** – Mrs Wilcox and Ms Morgan

Each class is made up of Reception and Year 1 children.

If you would like to ask your child's teacher a question please use their class email

[midnight@minchscool.net](mailto:midnight@minchscool.net)

[teal@minchscool.net](mailto:teal@minchscool.net)

[aqua@minchscool.net](mailto:aqua@minchscool.net)

# Structure of the day

**School starts at 8.50am – please arrive at school between 8.35am and 8.50am – the children will be greeted by the Reception / Year 1 team at the small gates by the Reception / Year 1 outdoor classroom.**

We have playtime at 10.10am – 10.30am

Reception lunch from 12.05pm

Year 1 lunch from 12.15pm

Each day the children have opportunities to learn in their classrooms, in the outdoor classroom altogether and in the school grounds where we have a wildlife area and a pond.

Each class will have PE twice per week and PE kits are to remain in school.

# Dropping off and picking up...

- Please arrive from 8.35am – we will be ready from 8.35am.
- Please pick up from 3.10pm – please don't arrive before this time as the children will be busy tidying up outside.
- The children need to wait for a teacher or TA to say that they can go through the gate to meet their grown up.
- Please keep the dropping off line and the picking up line moving to enable us to greet and dismiss the children efficiently. Thank you for your understanding. If you need to speak to a teacher please stand to one side to enable the children to continue to access the gates.

# Please send your child with the following each day

- A warm/waterproof coat – whatever the forecast
- Plastic reading folder with reading record and any school reading scheme books inside (Reception will have their reading folder soon).
- Water bottle. For ease of use, a straw top or sports top lid rather than a screw top lid would be preferable. (No squash or juice please.)
- Their Book Bag (named)



# Food Glorious Food

Please inform us of any dietary requirements if you have not already done so.

## **Snack**

We receive daily fruit for the children from the Government free fruit scheme so there is no need to provide a fruit snack from home. We have an additional carbohydrate snack to supplement the fruit. Any donations of packs of plain crackers or breadsticks for the class would be gratefully received. The children do not need to bring their own snack from home.

## **Milk**

Milk is free until your child is five but you still need to register with Cool Milk. Once your child is five you need to pay regularly. Lists are updated weekly.

## **Lunch**

Universal free school meals are available for all children. There are two/three options available daily. At least one will be a vegetarian option. The children choose their option each day when they arrive at school. If you choose to send a packed lunch from home please ensure your child can open the packets themselves. Please remember we are a nut free school. We also ask that you do not include egg or egg products (e.g. mayonnaise). The children may have a combination of packed lunches and school lunches.

Please, please label all the children's clothes and belongings – including

- shoes (velcro or buckles no laces please)

boots

- all PE kit items including PE bag on the outside

- water bottles

- books bags

- lunch boxes

- school uniform

- coats / hats / gloves

- tracksuit bottoms

# Outdoor Learning - Thursdays

- We aim to teach and learn outside as much as possible so clothes suitable for the weather may be required in addition to school uniform— e.g. sunhats, sun cream applied before school, extra base layer under school polo shirt, long school trousers rather than shorts, tights, black leggings, woolly hat, raincoat etc.
- Official outdoor learning day will be **Thursday** each week for all classes. Please send your child into school wearing their jogging bottoms on this day. At the moment we will be outdoor learning on the school grounds.
- Wellies are to be kept in school.



# Tapestry



- Please check Tapestry regularly for information from us and to see some of the things the children are doing in school.
- We encourage you to comment on our observations and to upload your own observations from home to add to your child's learning journey.

# Reception Reading Information

## **Reading**

Initially, your child will choose 2 books from our class book corner (choosing books) to share at home. Please read these books to your child and discuss the story, ask questions, look out for interesting words etc. Please record any reading that you do at home (e.g. bedtime story) on the right hand side of each double page of the reading record book that you will find in the reading folder.

Our school expectation is that you record reading every day (or at least 5 times per week). A comment about the book you have read or just a signature.

Phonics will be starting on 26th September for Reception and we will be sending home phoneme cards to practise at home.

Reading books, for your child to practise their reading, will be sent home when your child is ready.

# Reading Year 1

- Please use the reading record to record all reading with your child each day; both reading to your child as well as listening to their reading. We will send home one or two reading book at a time and they will be changed at least twice a week. Choosing books will also be sent home twice a week.
- Please make sure that you write in your child's reading record book to show that your child has read their reading book(s) and/or has had a story read by you at home. If you haven't written in the book we will presume the books have not been read.
- Please read with your child and record the reading at least five times per week. A story you read to your child is counted as part of the "at least five reads per week". Ideally reading with your child every day gives your child the best possible start with reading.
- If your child is too tired to read, then it is perfectly acceptable to read to them – either their reading book or a picture book.
- Please make sure their reading folder is in their book bags everyday.
- Please contact us if you have any concerns with regards to your child's progress in reading.

# Independence

- We have been very impressed with how independent the children have been already this term.
- Please encourage independence at home with regards to dressing, putting on their own coats and boots. Carrying their own bags and tidying away their toys.
- Please support your child towards recognising their own name. We encourage, teach, support and then expect the children to find their own belongings. Another reason why we need everything labelled. The children get very upset when they cannot find their own belongings because they don't have a name on.

# Sleep

Starting school for the first time or returning to a new school year can be very tiring. Please ensure your child gets plenty of sleep to enable them to cope well at school.

Marvellous Me Boxes  
'All About Me' topic

# Thank You!

Finally we would like to say a huge thank you to all parents for a great start to the new school year. We are all very impressed at how well the children have all come in to school and are settling into their new classes.

From the Reception / Year 1 Team 😊

Are there any questions?