

# Welcome to Cherry Class



Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to all of the new Reception children. I look forward to teaching them all and hope that they settle into their new routines quickly. School drop off for Cherry Class is between 8.40 and 8.50, Mrs Smith or a member of staff will be on the gate to greet them. Please do not arrive before this time, as no one is available to supervise the children. Cherry Class children enter the school in the morning through the main playground gate, parents are not to enter the playground in the morning. School finishes at 3.30pm for Cherry Class, and children can be collected from the main playground.

## Reading

At Ivington, reading is regarded as a high priority. Your child will be provided with one school reading book, which will be carefully matched to your child's reading ability and a library book that we encourage you to share with your child. We will share books with them as a whole class and will initially encourage them to choose their own books from our book box to take home and share with you. We would encourage you to continue the good practice you will already have been doing of sharing books with your child. You can ask them questions to predict what might happen and then discuss what has happened. Please take the time to enjoy looking at the pictures and describe the characters or settings. Please write the name of the books that you have shared at home with your child in their reading record. This is a useful way of knowing how your child is progressing at home; also, regular reading is rewarded with stickers and a book prize.

Once a week the children will have the chance to use the school library and choose a book to take home. Please ensure all of their books and book bags are in school every day.

## Pie Corbett Story telling

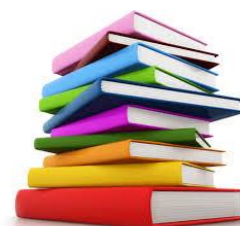
Each day your child will take part in oral storytelling. We will learn a new story by heart every term. This is fundamental for the development of language and new vocabulary to use in writing but to also develop expression within reading. The children love to perform their stories once they have learnt them, so please try, and encourage your child to perform them at home. You will thoroughly enjoy them.

## Learning

For the main part of the time, the children will be learning through activities which will cover more than one area of learning and they will be encouraged to make choices and develop independence. They will have access to a range of activities which will cover maths, art, music, knowledge and understanding of the world, ICT, and personal, social, and emotional education. Role play, sand, water, painting, construction, and creative activities will be on offer daily and we offer free flow play to extend and develop their learning through indoor and outdoor activities. Please ensure your child has a coat to enable them to access the outdoor areas.

## Homework

Homework for Reception children is to access Reading Eggs (passwords will be sent home).



## Topic

For the first week we will be settling the children in, establishing routines and getting to know them. Then we will focus on our topic which for this term will be "Who Am I?". We will be exploring who they are, their family and where they live. We would kindly ask, if at all possible that you send in a photograph of them as a baby, one of their family and one of where they live. We have lots of exciting learning opportunities which I know the children are going to thoroughly enjoy. Please take some time to look at the overview for more information about our topic which is located on the school website.



### Forest Schools

Reception children will be having 'Forest School' sessions on a Wednesday. During the afternoon we will go on walks, explore the school field and woodland area, and undertake activities outside. We will hopefully go out whatever the weather. **(A separate letter will be attached with a kit list for Forest Schools)**

### Golden Time

'Golden Time' will take place during the last half an hour on a Friday afternoon. This is the children's own time, when they can choose activities such as board or computer games, construction, outdoor games, and colouring.

### PE

PE sessions will be on a **Friday**; we will go outside for PE, so your child will need shorts, t-shirt, jogging bottoms, a warm sweatshirt and outdoor trainers (children will also need these for our daily mile). PE kits should come into school and stay in school for the half term; this reduces any chances of children becoming upset when they do not have their kit following a weekend. Please ensure that **all** items are **clearly labelled**. Obviously, if there are any accidents or unforeseen circumstances, we will send it home prior to the half term holiday to be washed.



I will be happy to discuss any of the above or answer any questions you may have regarding anything else related to your child. I very much look forward to the fun and exciting term ahead.

Mrs. Davies

**Underpinning all of our learning are our school values.**



Please keep this letter for reference. A copy can be seen at <http://www.ivington.hereford.sch.uk/> on Cherry Class Page.