



Welcome to Reception

A guide to starting school at Westmoor Primary

Welcome to Reception



[Click on the image above to watch our Welcome to Reception video.](#)

Our Headteacher's welcome



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We hope this guide will provide you with an overview of our Reception year and how you and your child can prepare for the move to 'big school'.

It is an exciting time to make new friends, learn new skills, develop self confidence and experience independence, and we are excited to welcome your child into Reception.



Your child will have the opportunity to visit their new learning space and meet their new teacher in the Summer term.



Your child will also be given a picture for them to look out for in September – this is their new peg and drawer label!





“Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential.”

Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, 2021



When children first start Reception in September, they become used to the new routines over a few days, before staying for lunch too. They will soon start to stay for full days.



The school day is 8.50am – 3.15pm. Children enter and exit through the Reception Class door – this is in the Foundation Stage outdoor play area.

Your child will need to wear school uniform in Reception. Please make sure you check the school website for our uniform policy and ensure that all uniform is named.



It is a good idea to help your child get used to taking on and off their jumper, putting on their shoes and learning how to fasten their coat.



All children in Reception are entitled to a free school meal. This can be a hot meal or a sandwich. The menus change each term and can be found on our school website. Children may bring a packed lunch instead if they wish.

Children may also have milk and this is free until your child turns 5. Please register for free milk at www.coolmilk.com

Water and fruit is available every day at our 'snack space'.



Our Virtual Tour of Reception



Click on the images above to access a 360 Tour of each of the areas.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

There are seven areas of learning and development which shape activities and engaging experiences for children in Reception. These areas are all important and are inter-connected.



Communication and Language



The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. A language-rich environment, with a wide range of contexts for children to communicate, will support children to develop a rich range of vocabulary and language structures in Reception.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Children are supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, and gain confidence in their own abilities. They are also taught how to keep and stay safe and healthy. Children are supported to make positive relationships with others, and enjoy working and playing with others productively.



Physical Development



Children have a P.E. session every week. They need to come to school in P.E. clothes on this day. This day will be shared with you ahead of the new term.

Physical activity is vital for happy, healthy lives and children develop both gross and fine motor skills in a wide range of contexts. Children participate in P.E. each week, where they will play games and activities to support core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Many fine motor activities which we provide help with hand eye co-ordination, which in turn supports early literacy development.



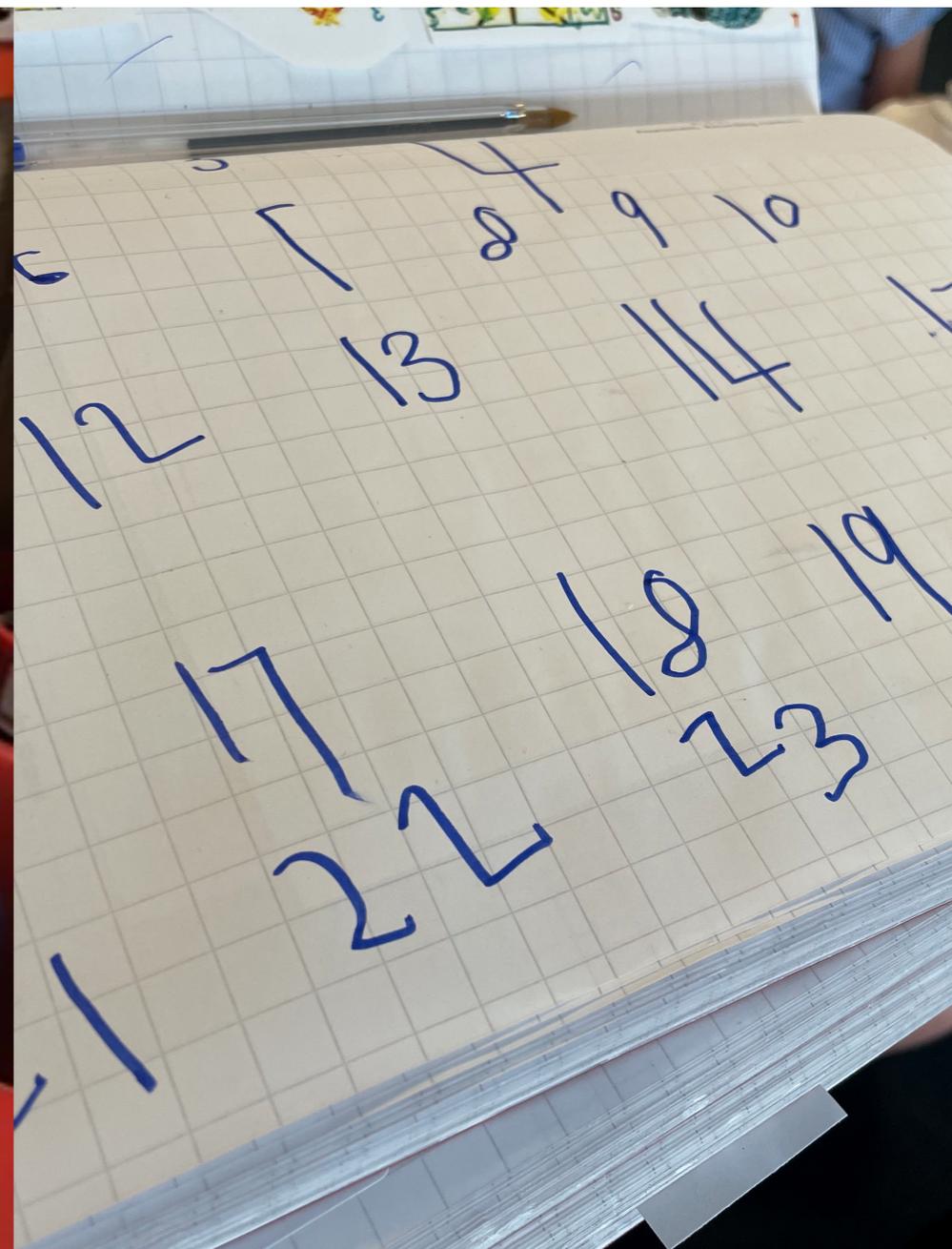
Literacy



Our aim in Reception is to develop children's love and fascination with books, to develop a life-long love of reading. Children take part in a daily phonics session, using the Read Write Inc scheme, in addition to exciting Literacy sessions where a wide range and genre of books are used to stimulate both reading and writing opportunities for children to take part in.



Mathematics



Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. In Reception we count in many contexts, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. Children have opportunities to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures.



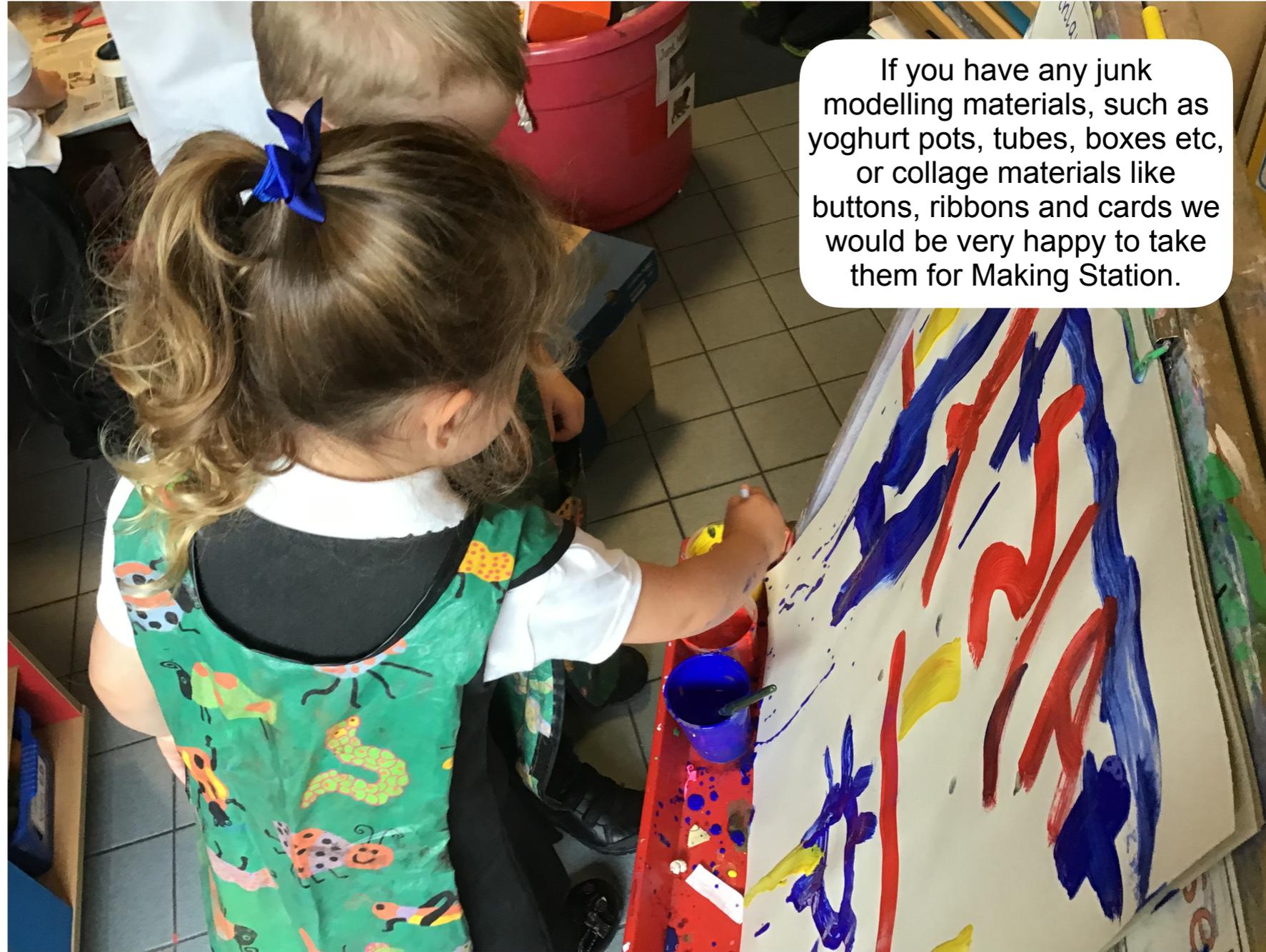
Understanding the World



Understanding of the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and community. We build important knowledge through experiences such as visiting areas in the locality, library and woodland garden and listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems that foster children's understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world.



Expressive Arts and Design



If you have any junk modelling materials, such as yoghurt pots, tubes, boxes etc, or collage materials like buttons, ribbons and cards we would be very happy to take them for Making Station.

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports imagination and creativity. Children in Reception have the opportunity to express themselves in different ways, such as through pictures, paintings and sculptures – in addition to singing, role play and movement. Children are also encouraged to draw in various contexts and for different purposes.



At the end of Reception, children are assessed against Early Learning Goals. These are completed by your child's teacher, based upon their knowledge of your child and their achievements in Reception. You can view these Early Learning Goals on our school website.



We ensure our curriculum is taught in engaging and exciting ways, to enable all children to develop important skills and knowledge, and also a love of learning.

Characteristics of effective learning, which underpin our approaches are:

- Playing and having a go – children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’.
- Active learning – Children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements.
- Creating and thinking critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.





Children spend time indoors and outdoors every day. All children must have a pair of wellies to remain in school all year. (Please make sure these are named)



Every week, children spend time in our Woodland Garden. This is a beautiful space where the children can explore throughout the year and engage in our very own Forest School. We provide waterproofs so we can visit rain or shine!





Home Learning Opportunities and Seesaw

We provide a range of engaging home learning projects that you can get involved in as a family. We use an online learning journey to capture your child's exciting learning moments – and we encourage parents to share their home learning online too.

Meet The Team



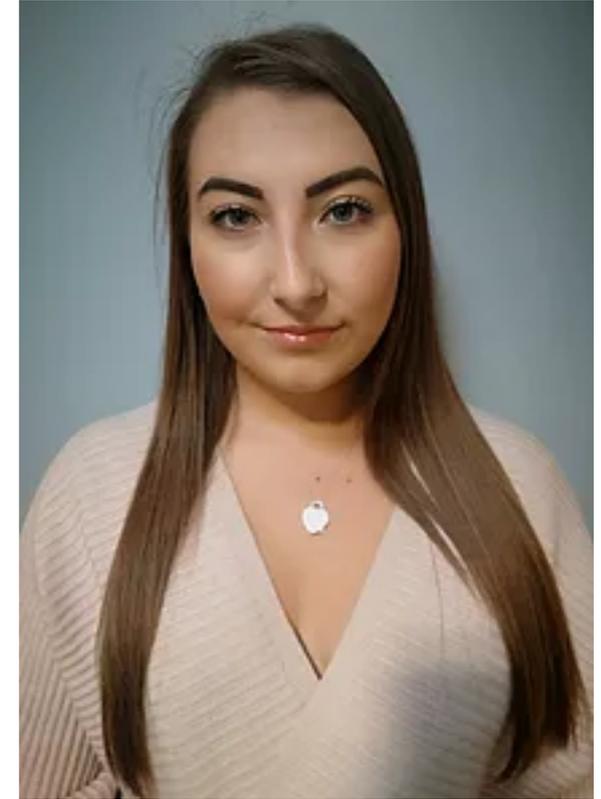
Mrs Hewitt
Reception Teacher



Miss Carr
Reception Teacher



Mrs Woodward
Reception Teaching
Assistant



Miss McIntyre
Nursery and Reception
Teaching Assistant



Checklist of things to prepare for in September

- School uniform ordered and labelled
- Contact school dinner service
- Register for milk at Cool Milk
- Help your child to practise some independence with shoes, coat and jumper

**WE CAN'T WAIT TO
MEET YOU!**

MRS HEWITT, MISS CARR, MRS WOODWARD AND MISS MCINTYRE