

## **Hughes Reception Children**

6th September 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have had a fantastic first day with the children in Hughes Class and over the rest of the week we will be getting to know each other better. Next week we will introduce a more structured timetable, which will include literacy, phonics, maths, R.E. and our topic. You will receive a letter soon containing an outline of what we will be learning this half term. Please find below some general information about Hughes and our day-to-day routines.

### **Hughes Class Staff**

There are two other members of staff in Bees. Miss Graham is a teaching assistant with seven years of experience in Early Years, who will be working with the children fulltime. Mrs Hey is an equally experienced higher-level teaching assistant, who will be teaching the class on Wednesday mornings when I am occupied with planning and assessment.

### **Uniform**

We ask that all items of uniform and personal possessions (especially cardigans and jumpers, water bottles and book bags) are clearly labelled with your child's name. This will enable us to make sure that any lost clothing or items are returned to the owners as quickly as possible. P.E. will take place every Monday and Wednesday in the hall or outside. Please ensure your child comes into school on these days wearing their P.E. kit. The kit consists of a white t-shirt and black shorts, with the option of a red hooded top and black jogging bottoms for cooler weather. These items should be as plain as possible, without logos (other than the Kirk Fenton logo) and clearly labelled with your child's name. Trainers should be black.

### **Behaviour**

In Reception we use a daily chart to encourage and celebrate positive behaviour in class, particularly in the areas of good manners, listening and effort. During carpet time at the end of each day, we talk about the good behaviour of children on the chart and hand out stickers as a reward. A certificate is awarded to those children who have gone 'above and beyond' by demonstrating outstanding behaviour throughout the day. We also have a whole-school team point system. This consists of four teams: Blue Mustangs, Green Gladiators, Orange Spitfires and Purple Typhoons. Each child is allocated a team (those with older siblings have been placed in the same team as their sibling). Every time the child works hard, or does something special they will be given a team point. These points are then counted up at the end of the week and the winning team is awarded a trophy during our Good Work Assembly (see below for further information).

### **Numbots**

The children will be given a username and password for an online maths game called Numbots. This will help them with their counting, addition and subtraction skills. They can work through it at their own pace and once they have mastered a particular skill they can move on to the next level. We

introduced this game two years ago and it has had a huge impact on the children's maths progression (for example, their instant recall of number bonds to 10). Just working on this game for half an hour every week will make a real difference to your child's ability in maths. Each week one child will be selected from the class who has worked hard on Numbots during the week.

### **Good Work Assemblies**

Every Friday the children take part in a whole-school assembly which celebrates pupils who have worked particularly hard or made good progress in their learning. Every week a child is chosen from each class to receive a certificate in recognition of their efforts and their achievements.

### **Reading Books**

A letter outlining how we teach reading in school will be sent out to you shortly. The children will change their book once a week. Please ensure your child brings their reading bag every day. Every week we will also be taking our class to the school library, where each child will be given the opportunity to choose two books for the week. Please ensure these books are brought back to school the following week so they can choose new books.

### **Marvellous Me App**

At Kirk Fenton we use an app called Marvellous Me, which enables teachers to send messages to the parents of children in their class, such as notifications, reminders and feedback. It is a great way of keeping you up to date with what is going on in class and your child's progress. Please ensure you have signed up for this.

### **Tapestry**

In Early Years we use an online learning journal called Tapestry to record your child's learning journey. Once you have signed up, you will receive emails containing updates/ observations of your child at school. We would love to see the learning your child does at home too, so please feel free to add this to Tapestry.

### **Photos**

We have two displays in our classroom, one about families and one about the seasons. We would love to have some photos of your family to go on our family display, along with any summery photos you may have taken during the holidays for our season display. You can bring photos into school or email them to the following address: [eyfsobservations@kf.starmat.uk](mailto:eyfsobservations@kf.starmat.uk)

If you have any questions or concerns about your child or the class please do not hesitate to email me through the school office. If you would prefer, a telephone conversation could also be arranged.

It has been lovely to meet the children this week and we are looking forward to joining them on their learning journey over the coming year.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Westfeld



*Living Life in all its Fullness John 10:10*

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