



Faith, Love, Courage, Patience.

14th September 2018

**Curriculum Information
EYFS Autumn Term 2018**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year at Wareside. We are very excited to be sharing your child's learning journey with them and we look forward to building great foundations with you to support your child in their early years at school.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about the curriculum, staff and routines in EYFS and the topics the children will be learning about this term.

The Staff:

Mrs Sue Lewis: Early Years Leader (Wednesdays)

Mrs Michelle Wheeler: Early Years Teacher

Mrs Lindsay Barton: Early Years Practitioner

Miss Ellen Newton: Teaching Assistant

House keeping:

Children who are not yet toilet trained, should have spare nappies and a change of clothes in their bag at all times. It is also a good idea for all other children to have a change of clothes as they will often get wet or messy - we do have some spare clothing, but not enough for everyone.

Children should have long hair tied up at all times (not just half of it). This is due to health & safety (children could get their hair caught in equipment) and also because of head lice. The children should also have a waterproof jacket with them at all times. We like the children to be outside as much as possible. Therefore, if they have a waterproof jacket, they are still able to continue their learning outside if the weather is a little wet.



Lunches:

Children from Nursery 2 upwards are welcome to stay for lunch. If you would like your child to stay, please see Mrs Duffy in the office.

Morning routine:

Children should be brought into class at 8:45 each day when they will begin their 'Busy Fingers' activities. This session is designed to help children develop their fine motor skills - the activities will vary day-to-day. During this period, we ask that you say goodbye to your child as quickly as possible and leave the school grounds promptly. We find that children often settle quicker without prolonged goodbyes and if they can see you through the door, this delays them in settling down.

Children will have adult led daily phonics sessions, as well as maths and literacy. They will also have lots of Child Initiated Learning, when they have the chance to choose their own pathways for learning.

Children will also have a daily 'Wake and Shake' session and will enjoy meditating, story time and music/singing. On Fridays we are introducing a Welly walk which again gives children to extend their learning outdoors further into the school grounds.

Afternoons

Reception children join Class 1 in the afternoons where their teachers will be: Miss Phillips and Miss Flowers.

Nursery 2 children have the option of staying for the afternoon session with Nursery 1 children. This session is led by Mrs Barton with Miss Newton. Again speak to Mrs Duffy if you want to extend your child's day.

Reading:

It is vital that your child begins to enjoy reading from a very early age. Even if your child is unable to read yet, it is still advisable to allow them to explore and handle books and to enjoy them. Daily reading with carers can be most rewarding and we would like to encourage you to do this for at least 10 minutes per day. We will be allowing children to choose their own library books on a Thursday, and will also be sending a book from the reading scheme for older children. If anyone has any questions or would like any tips on how to read with young children, please feel free to talk to us.

Phonics:

For some children, we will also be sending home phonics 'sounds' for them to practise. The more they are exposed to phonics, the quicker they will learn. Once again, if anyone has any questions or would like to attend a session on phonics - please ask.

Topics:



This term, our topics are 'This is Me', 'People who help us' and 'Celebrations'. If you or someone you know has related knowledge in any of the topics we cover this year and would be happy to share either your time or information we would be very grateful. A special visitor, object or trip always enhances the children's learning experience and we hope to do this wherever possible.

PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development):

Children will discuss their classroom - what makes it a 'safe' and friendly environment - how they should treat their classroom and their peers. We will discuss feelings, forming relationships, and how to solve conflicts. We have already begun to do this by praising and sharing positive communication we see and also by using puppets and addressing themes in books during circle time.

Communication and Language:

We will focus on listening one to one or in small groups; listening to stories with increasing attention and recall; joining in with repeated refrains and anticipating key events, phrases and rhymes in stories. Another key focus is to listen to and follow directions. Snack time is another good opportunity for the children to sit together and practise their social skills.

Literacy:

These sessions start with the children themselves and their experiences. They share information and Reception children will write imaginative captions and labels. We often use good quality picture books as the starting point of our writing and story telling such as What I Like by Catherine and Lawrence Anholt, Peace at Last by Jill Murphy and Avocado baby by John Burningham.

Mathematics:

Children will begin to recognise numbers which are of significance to them for example - their age, how many siblings they have, how many people are in their family, which door number they live at. They will recite numbers and use them in songs, rhymes and stories. They will count objects in various contexts and begin to match numerals to the number of objects in a set. They will use comparative language - one more/one less. They will begin to represent numbers using fingers, object and by using mark making. They will also be recognising, naming and describing shapes and continuing repeating patterns.

Religious Education:

Children will be looking at celebrations and festivals in our own school community and the world.

Understanding of the World:



As well as links to RE and literacy our topics will inspire this area. Areas of focus include: Recognising we are similar and different to each other and celebrating our uniqueness, awareness and understanding of the changing seasons.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Children will be developing their creative skills by beginning with a self-portrait and a tree clay face of themselves on a welly walk. Role play links to People who help us will see opportunities for children to act out their ideas.

Physical Development:

Children will constantly be developing fine motor skills throughout all activities, as well as developing gross motor skills during 'Wake and Shake' and whilst playing and climbing in the outdoor area. Reception children will also participate in PE lessons with Class 1 in the afternoons.

We are very excited about the year ahead, and are looking forward to sharing some of your children's learning with you.

Dates for your diary:

- Sunday 14th October - Harvest Festival - Holy Trinity Church 9:30 (more info to follow).
- Wednesday 24th October - Parent Consultations
- Friday 26th October - break up for half term

If you would like to speak to the class teacher for any reason, please feel free to see me at the end of the sessions, or make an appointment via the school office.

Warm regards,

Mrs Wheeler and the Early Years Team.

