



Armathwaite School
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Headteacher: Mrs Helen Hepworth

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Dear Reception Parent\Carers,

It is lovely having our Reception children in school full time. We can't call them 'new' anymore because it feels like they have always been here!

I'm so pleased to give your child a beautiful book pack from the library service and hope you enjoy sharing it at home together.

Thank you for making sure your child gets to school in time to complete their morning jobs. They need at least 10 to 15 minutes to do this. The bell will ring at 8.55am so that assembly can begin at 9am prompt.

Home Learning

Please find below information about the learning we expect your child to do at home. There are regular learning activities for all children and specific homework requirements. As teachers we know that you are your child's first educators and appreciate that children spend a lot more time with family at home than they do in school.

First we will explain activities all children need to be involved in and the role you as parent\carers play in this. Then we will provide detail of homework organisation and requirements for our Year Reception group.

Talk

Talk really is invaluable. When you listen to your child, answer questions they may have and tell them stories, you develop not only their vocabulary and ability to read non-verbal body language, you also show them that you are interested in and value what they have to say. This is such an important message to give to children and will result in them being more interested in and keen to listen to things you have to say.

TIP: If your child\children can speak using correct tenses and grammar then they will also be able to read and write well. To make sure this happens encourage your child to use correct tenses and grammar by modelling it in the way you speak.

Reading

Reading to and with your child makes a hugely positive impact on their learning and the progress they make. Reading promotes language development, understanding and reasoning, emotional well-being and much, much more. There has been a great deal of research into learning to read and the importance of reading. As teachers we can see every day the difference this makes to your child, so **PLEASE READ TO YOUR CHILD** often as you can. People often think you should only read to children when they are very young and that once a child can read you no longer need to read to them. This is NOT the case. Research tells us that reading to and with your child up to age 11+ impacts very positively on the progress they make.

To find more information about the importance of reading you could look at BBCiWonder – Why is storytelling important to children? at www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zyvhpv4 and/or www.booktrust.co.uk

Please help your child by reading with\to him\her every night. Please record reading you do with your child in her\his learning log. We need to know when and what they are reading and how they are getting on at home. You can write a little or a lot but just a date and book title is okay. It means we know you have read with your child\children. Teachers in school spend many hours writing up learning logs for children in school. Please look at your child's learning log for feedback and general and individualised tasks.

Home Learning

All children in school are expected to complete learning tasks at home. We only give relevant homework, always with a purpose and never for the sake of it. When reading and completing home learning task your child needs a quiet place with no TV or devices which could cause distraction. This will allow them to focus and appreciate the value we all place on the learning experience children are having. Establishing a regular routine for home learning will make a positive difference.

Please make time to be sure your child completes his\her homework.

Year Reception

- Read to and with your child every day and write in learning log
- Practise phonic sounds, learning to link letters to sounds and blend them together
- Learn Year Reception high frequency words that are in your child's book bag
- When, later this term, your child brings a maths book home complete the pages * by the teacher each week
- Any other curriculum home learning in learning logs