

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to Reception. We are sure you are looking forward to your child's first year at Hinguar. We are looking forward to getting to know you and working together so that we have a very exciting and productive year.

Teaching and Learning

Our teaching and learning focus will be play-based to provide the learning environment which children within the Early Years Foundation Stage require.

Our topic this term will be 'All about Me' and 'The World and Me' where we will be learning and sharing about ourselves, our likes and our dislikes, our families, our festivals, celebrations from different cultures, our bodies, healthy self-care routines and our local community.

All areas of learning will be explored through different aspects of our topic. We aim to teach these areas of learning by providing the children with exciting and fun experiences that will enable them to become lifelong learners. We will use practical and creative activities that will enable the children to develop skills that can be used across subjects.

You can support your child at home by asking them about their learning at school and encouraging them to carry out further research at home. This can be achieved by visiting local libraries and using the internet to develop their interest in learning.

Learning Guarantees

This term we will:

- Take part in a cooking activity and explore healthy foods.
- Discuss good oral health routines.
- Explore the 5 senses.
- Create a body map
- Explore art by Picasso and Pollack.
- Look at children's heritages.
- Celebrate festivals that are important to us.

Phonics

A main focus for the children this term will be the introduction of phonics, which will provide the basis for the development of reading and writing.

The phonic scheme we follow at school is Little Wandle. The children will take part in daily phonic sessions. To consolidate their in-school learning you will be provided with a set of Little Wandle cards with suggested activities to take part in.



Maths

In Seahorse Class, we use the White Rose scheme to promote daily practical maths experiences for your children.

Throughout the day they will explore, apply and practise many different maths concepts in all areas of the classroom as they learn through play.



Reading

Your child will read a book matched to their phonic awareness. Please record when you have read with your child in their reading record.

Your child's reading book will be changed regularly. Please ensure their book and reading record are in your child's bag every day.

We suggest you read with your child at least five times a week. Other books/comics read at home can also be recorded in the reading record.

In school, we will listen to your child read as part of a group.

Hinguar Star

Children will receive a star stamp every week for reading 5 times a week. A star will not be awarded if you have not recorded your child's reading in their reading record. We count the number of times read from Friday to Friday.



Catch Me! Awards

This is a system that rewards the children for doing the right thing all the time, whether it be being polite, helpful, ready to learn etc. Any adult in the school can award the Catch Me! signatures to the children.



General notices

Uniform

Please ensure that your child's entire clothing, including ties and equipment are named. This makes it easier to locate items when they have been mislaid.

If your child is having packed lunch, please name the lunch box and any reusable containers inside.

PE

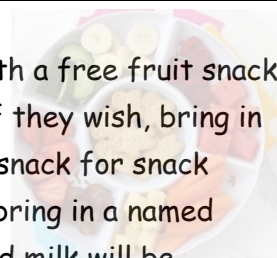
Our PE day is on a **Wednesday**; please ensure your child has a PE kit in school. We will not start PE until **23rd September**. PE kits will stay at school and will be returned at the end of the term for washing (or beforehand if necessary).

Jewellery

No jewellery, apart from stud earrings may be worn. Jewellery **MUST NOT** be worn on PE days as Health and Safety Regulations forbid the wearing of jewellery during physical activities.

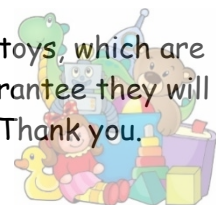
Snacks

The children are provided with a free fruit snack every day though they can, if they wish, bring in their own fruit or vegetable snack for snack time. Your child will need to bring in a named water bottle. Fresh water and milk will be provided throughout the day.



Toys

Please can children **NOT** bring in toys, which are not comforters, as we cannot guarantee they will not become misplaced or broken. Thank you.



Drop-in times

I am available after school daily to discuss any small matters concerning your child, although if you would like a more detailed discussion, it may be beneficial to book a time to meet, through the school office.

Tapestry

We like to share with you the things your child has been doing during the week in Reception. Each week, we will send home one observation via Tapestry showing you something that your own child has participated in during the week. Please feel free to use Tapestry to share with us WOW! moments that your child has achieved at home.

Key Dates:

Phonics meeting - 18th September 2.30-3.00 - more details to follow

Half Term: 19th - 30th October

Parent Conferences - 6th and 8th October

Flu immunisation (in school) - 18th November

Reception Nativity: 8th December 9.15am

Reception Christmas Decoration Morning: 8th December 10.15

Friday 18th December - children finish at 1 pm

Christmas Break 21st December - 1st January

Children return to school Monday 4th January 2027