

## Working Together With Parents

The best way to support your child's development is to spend as much time experiencing new and interesting things as possible.

One idea is to visit a local park. Talk to your child about some of the things that you can see. What is the weather like that day? What animals do you think you might see at the park? Visit the same park in a few weeks and look for things that have changed? Has the weather changed? Have the trees changed? Noticing changes in their environment and being able to talk about them is a key skill for children to develop.

You could also help your child to learn about their local community. Visit a bakery and buy something for lunch. Ask your child to help choose and pay for the items. Talk to your child about what they sell in a bakery. You could then bake some cakes at home together. This would introduce a wide range of mathematical skills to your child, including money, weighing and sequencing the recipe just to name a few.

Look out for your child's reading book in their book bag, which we will change weekly. Read with your child at home daily and don't forget to write any comments about their reading in their reading record to keep us updated on their reading experiences at home. If you haven't bought a book bag yet, please pop into the main office at school and they will be able to help you.

At Abbey Hey, we communicate with parents and carers through 'Class Dojo'. This is an app that you can download onto your personal device and then receive messages about things that are happening in school. Over the next few days, we will be sending out letters which contain your child's personal activation code. If you need any support setting up the Class Dojo app, please speak to a member of staff.

If you have any questions please feel free to come in and see any member of the Early Years team.

Thank you for your continued support.

# Learning in Reception



# 53 Degrees North

## Learning in Early Years "53 Degrees North"

As a school we will be learning about the many countries that lie 53 degrees North on the world map. In Reception we will be focusing on who we are, where we live and our local area. The children will have the opportunity to get to know each other, discover their similarities and differences and learn about each other as they begin new friendships.

As part of this topic, we will be finding out about where we live, going on a walk in our local area and finding out about other countries that we have been to or come from. Do they lie 53 degrees north?

## Learning in Literacy

### Speaking and Listening

The children will be taking part in short circle time activities where they will get the opportunity to speak in a familiar group and ask and answer questions. Through play, adults will be encouraging children to initiate conversations and interact with friends.

We will begin to have daily phonics lessons where children will be introduced to new sounds and some high-frequency words.

### Reading

We will have regular story times where we will be reading a variety of fictional stories relating to our topic. The children will also learn some new songs and rhymes. Your child will soon be provided with a reading book which will be changed weekly. Please read with your child every day at home. Reading a story to your child every day is just as important as them practicing to read themselves.

### Writing

We will focus on name writing, and children will be encouraged to write their name every morning when they come into school. As new sounds are introduced in phonics, children will be encouraged to form the matching letter. Children will be supported to write labels and captions, and there will be lots of opportunities for writing independently during play. We will also be drawing self-portraits and family portraits; Drawing is just as important as writing during the early writing stages. This supports the children in holding their pencil correctly and gives them the confidence to put pen to paper!

## Working together, parents as partners.

We will be having a family activity morning, where families will be invited into school to share take part in some activities with their child and get to know the other families and children in the class.

Look out for more information in the next few weeks. Please see the back sheet for ways to support your child at home.



## Learning Outdoors

In Reception Class we have a saying "There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing"

We use the outdoor learning environment all year round to teach every aspect of the curriculum. Please make sure that your child brings a warm coat in everyday and feel free to leave wellington boots and waterproof trousers on their peg. Please make sure to label all clothing. This term's focus will be learning to care for our allotment, flowerbeds and fish. Through these activities we will be learning about the world around us and how to take care of it.



"Remember,  
you're the one that  
can fill the world  
with  
sunshine"

## Learning in Mathematics

In the Early Years Department Mathematics is separated into two strands;

### **Number and Space Shape and Measure.**

In Number we will be learning to count objects to 20, recognise numbers in the environment and forming numerals.

In Space, Shape and Measure this term we will be learning about 2D shapes and developing our mathematical vocabulary. We will also be learning to sequence our day, learning about daily routines and learning about things that we do in the morning and things that we do in the evening. This will help your child to develop a concept of time.

## Role Play and Small World

Role play and small world includes things such as dolls houses, toy towns, and the home corner. This half term we will be focusing on role play and small world settings which are familiar to your child.

This will help them to learn about similarities and differences between themselves and their friends. They will also begin to learn that our differences are what makes us all special and unique.

## Points to Remember

Please follow our Reception Twitter account where we post lots of photographs, news and children's work  
**@AHPA\_Reception**

We also have our own Reception page on the schools website where we will post pictures and messages. All copies of letters that we send out will also be available here.

Please ensure that you have the Class Dojo app and log into your child's account for updates and messages.