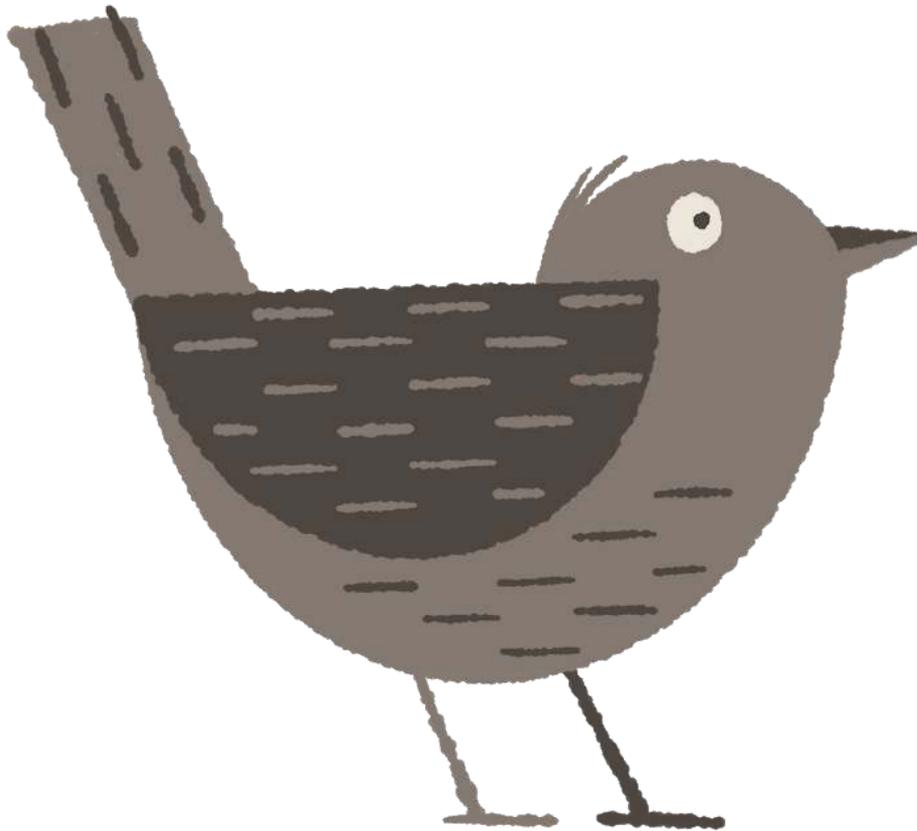


WRENS' CLASS GUIDE



2020-2021



MEET THE TEAM

MISS SUMMERS

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CLASS TEACHER

MISS OSBORNE

TEACHING ASSISTANT

MRS EARLE

TEACHING ASSISTANT



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Nail varnish must be removed for school.
- No jewelry (apart from ear studs) are to be worn at school and these must be removed by the child for them to take part in PE. If they are not removed your child will not be allowed to join in with the session.
 - Children must have a named water bottle in school every day.
- **Please ensure that all of the children's items of clothing are clearly named.** We will name any items of clothing that aren't named.
 - Please remember that we are a 'nut free' school.
- Please bring your child's PE kit in to keep at school at the beginning of term. We do not have spare kits for children to use at school.
- Your child will need a pair of wellington boots to keep at school for the year.



ENGLISH

READING

The expectation with regards to reading at home is that it is done at least four times a week. Even if it is just a page, reading a menu when you are out for dinner, reading the information on cereal packets or a book, it is important to all other areas of development to have time to read and discuss books with children.

An adult will check the reading records on a daily basis, so if you have read with your child or if your child has read on their own **please write this in the reading record** so that we can monitor how they are progressing with their reading at home.

If your child has read consistently throughout the week (a minimum of four days), they will be rewarded with a Dojo and be a reading star entitling them to join in with our reading ambassadors session on a Friday afternoon whereby they can share a book with their peers in other classes (due to COVID, we will be sharing a book with peers within our class until further notice). If a child has not managed to read four days within the week, they will be asked to read in their classroom.

Throughout the day, adults in the classroom will be listening to your child read. We also have daily reading sessions timetabled which could be in the form of guided or quiet reading. In Wrens we do quiet reading for the first 15 minutes of each day.

The children are encouraged to independently choose their own reading books at school so they may reselect books that they have already read by choice. It is also a Key Stage 1 objective for the children to re-read books to develop their fluency.

SOUNDS & WORDS

In Reception, all children will have a daily phonics session. At stepping we follow the Letters and Sounds scheme.

We begin with phase 1 which focuses on phonological awareness. Letters and Sounds concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2.

During phase 2 the Children will learn their first phonemes and will use these to segment and blend simple CVC words. They will also learn to read and write their first set of 'Tricky words' - **I, to, the, no, go.**



By the time they reach Phase Three, children should be able to blend and segment words using the phonemes taught in Phase Two. They will learn a further 26 phonemes in Phase Three, which mostly consist of digraphs and trigraphs. They will also learn the letter names using an alphabet song, although they will continue to use sounds when decoding words. During Phase Three, the next set of tricky words will also be taught.

In Reception we aim to reach Phase 4. Phase Four doesn't introduce any new phonemes. The aim of this phase is to consolidate the children's knowledge and to help them learn to read and spell words which have adjacent consonants, such as **trap, string and milk**. It also focuses on the reading and spelling of words with more than one syllable. During this phase, children will be taught another set of tricky words to read and write.

These skills will support your child with their reading and writing. Promotion of this at home, alongside reading and spellings is very important and highly recommended.

SPELLINGS

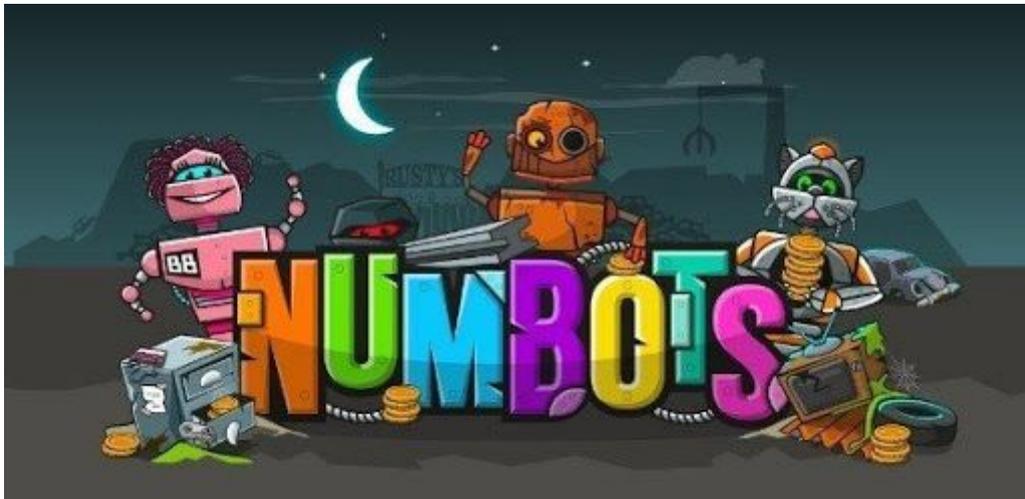
Your child will be given a spelling and sounds book that will consist of: letter sounds, high frequency words to be read and written and words to sound out. Each week, an adult will update your child's book with a new sheet of spellings and sounds for your child to practise at home which is appropriate for their phonic level.

We also have an app called Spelling Shed at school. Children will have supervised access to this once a week as another fun alternative for spelling. Each child has their own Spelling Shed login which will be sent home when we begin Phase 2 phonics. I will upload weekly spelling lists that link to the sounds we are learning. You may wish to download this app to use at home.

MATHS

We have introduced a new app called NumBots. This is an online game that will support your child with improving their recall and understanding of number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. It is important that children become fluent with their number bonds and other number facts as they build the foundations for many other maths concepts.

Each child will be given their own personal login and have the opportunity to access this game at school. Logins will be given out later on in the term when we begin to focus on these skills within class. You can download the app at home if you wish to use it. I will give some more information about how the app is used via Class Dojo.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE takes place on a **Tuesday afternoon**, however, children are expected to have their PE kit in school at all times..

INDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE shorts/skorts
Bare feet



OUTDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE sports jumper
School PE shorts/skorts
Jogging bottoms (if required)
Trainers



Children are also required to wear appropriate sports wear for any sports club that they attend either before school, at lunch or after school.

PHYSICALLY ACTIVE

Physically active is a government initiative designed to encourage all children to become more active within their everyday lifestyle. As a school, we are timetabling in 15 minutes every day (where possible) for the children to take part in a form of physical activity. This could be jogging around the field, active assemblies, yoga, etc. Due to COVID, we are unfortunately unable to take part in Physically Active as described above. However, when restrictions lift, we will commence with Physically Active as previously planned.



In Wrens class, the children will experience our forest school area every **Thursday morning** with Miss Honeybee to explore and to learn about Earth Science.

Children can come into school in non-uniform on this day. They will need to be wearing clothing that is suitable for Forest School. They will need to be comfortable and have appropriate footwear as it is a very active and muddy session. We ask that a pair of wellington boots are kept in school and that suitable coats and waterproof clothing are brought each week, especially when the weather worsens.

Children should wear plenty of layers and waterproof clothing ensuring that they wear full length trousers/leggings (no jeans) and a long sleeve top, especially in the winter months. It is important that the children have spare gloves, socks and leggings just in case they get wet. They will go to Forest School in all weathers and it is much more fun when they are nice and warm.

In the summer, children still need to ensure that they wear full length trousers/leggings and a long sleeve top as well bringing in wellies or appropriate footwear for the day. It is also sensible to bring waterproof clothing in on the day for the typical English summer days.



UNHOMework



'Unhomework' is an alternative approach to the setting of homework which was introduced a couple of years ago and has been developing within school ever since. The aim of 'unhomework' is that it enables children to be creative, imaginative, independent and make their own decisions about what they want to work on at home which fits nicely in with our Montessori ethos that runs through the school.

By year 5/6, we hope to have prepared the children well enough to enable them to make their own decisions about what needs to be worked on, why it needs to be worked on and how they are going to work on it.

'Unhomework' suggestions:

- Posters, poems, plays, dances, stories, baking, presentations, construction projects, photos, videos etc.

| 'Unhomework' Progression | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Wrens | <i>In reception 'Unhomework' is known as Show and Tell. Children will be given a timetable at the beginning of the half term with some weekly themes to guide their Show and Tell for that week. Some will be simple themes that involve them bringing their favourite book or teddy to school and some will involve using a bit more imagination and creativity. It is important that your child brings their Show and Tell in every Friday to share with the class. Show and Tell Theme Examples: 5 Things About Me, My Family, My Favourite Animal, If I was a Superhero I Would be..., When I Grow up...</i> |
| Robins | At the start of each half term children in Robins will be offered a small selection of project-based ideas, from which they choose one to complete. The children have complete freedom and ownership as to how they complete and present their 'unhomework', having as little or as much adult help as needed. The 'unhomeworks' will then be shared with the class, in an exhibition, within the last two weeks of each half term. |
| Kingfishers | Children are expected to select an activity from the challenge cards within the class every two weeks. It is up to the children how they present their unhomework. Unhomework will be shared every Friday so they can choose to complete it within the week or take two weeks. The challenge will be a sticker in their reading record books. |
| Woodpeckers | Children will have the choice of several different 'unhomework' titles which they will work their way through during the year. They will have two weeks to complete their 'unhomework' in any way they choose and share with the class at the end of the two weeks. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club. |
| Kestrels | Children will be given a title based on one of our current areas of learning and will have two weeks to complete a piece of unhomework in any way they wish- on the computer, as a handwritten piece, a poster, model, poem, role play. This will be shared with the class fortnightly on a Friday. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club. |
| Ospreys | Each child is required to complete a minimum of two pieces of 'unhomework' every half term and any 'unhomework' brought in will be shared during the week that it is due in. I will always set a week beginning date so that we can stagger sharing. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend homework club. |
| Owls | Children are required to complete at least two 'unhomework' tasks every half-term satisfying the criteria and headings set out at the start of the year by the children themselves. Their 'unhomework' will then be shared with the class and they will then self-assess and peer-assess their work within their 'unhomework' booklet. If the tasks are not completed in the time set, they will be carried over into the next half term. All 'unhomeworks' will be shared on a Monday or Friday afternoon. |



CLASS DOJO

First and foremost, Class Dojo is a behaviour reward system whereby children are rewarded with Class Dojos to reward and reinforce positive behaviour. Children work throughout the year to earn individual Dojos as well as working collaboratively to earn class or group Dojos. At the end of the week, if the class have earned their agreed amount of Dojos they can then enjoy their reward.

At the end of the week, the child with the most Dojo points within their class will be recognised within assembly and entered onto our Class Dojo display.

Class Dojo can also be used to share children's work. Each class has their own page on top of the whole school page where notices, photos, important messages and general information can be uploaded. Children also have their own pages whereby they can select pieces of work they are particularly proud of to be uploaded and shared with their parents.

We will no longer be using the messaging function on the Class Dojo platform. Therefore, the best way to get in contact with your child's teacher is to email them directly.

The Class Dojo application can be downloaded from the Apple Store whilst also being available on android devices through the Play Store.



Working Hard



Teamwork



Good manners



Listening



Being kind



Being Helpful



Perseverance

TAPESTRY

In Wrens, children have both a paper based and online learning journal. For this we use an app called Tapestry. Tapestry builds a record of a child's experiences, development and learning journey through their reception year. Throughout the year we will observe your child during their play and during adult-led group and whole class learning activities. We will upload photos and videos of this along with comments about their learning and development, including next steps. You are then able to view your child's progress online and see all the exciting activities they are completing at school.

Each Tapestry journal is unique to each child. All information held in the platform is stored securely, and can be downloaded and shared as required. As a parent or guardian, you are able to like and comment on any observations made as well as upload your own observations from home if you feel you have anything you or your child wants to share. The communication between school and home that Tapestry enables, helps build a shared understanding of how every child can reach their full potential during their reception year. At the end of the year we will download each profile to share with you. You are then able to download this to a device to keep forever.

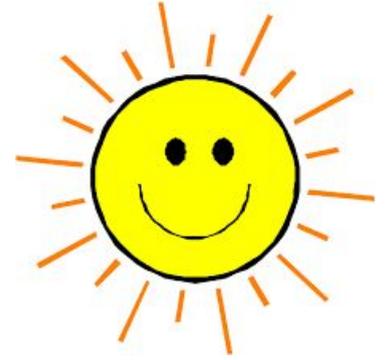


CLASS TEDDY

Every Friday, a child from the class will be sent home with our special class cuddly toy and their diary for the weekend. Your child will then be encouraged to write a little about what they both got up to. You could include a photograph or your child could draw a picture to share with the class to show what they did. They will need to bring the teddy back to school on the Monday to share with the class. Please note this will not happen initially as we are trying to limit the amount of items that go home and come to school.



SUNSHINE OF THE DAY



Each day, a different child is chosen to be the class 'Sunshine of the Day'. An adult in the class will choose a child to be the sunshine if they have shown good behaviour, been a kind and helpful friend and shown good attitude towards their learning.

STEPS CHALLENGE

Children will be given a STEPS challenge booklet at the start of the year (replacements can be downloaded and printed from our website) where they will be tasked with completing a range of challenges to earn their STEPS badge at the end of the year. We would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to undertake as many of the challenges as possible. We will put this in your child's reading folder when they receive them.

