



Keeping our families up to date with learning, events, resources and ideas for you and your child whilst in Reception at Goddard Park

Reception Newsletter

Issue: 3

Tuesday September 8th 2026



Dear Parents

We hope that our children have enjoyed their first few days at school and are looking forward to having their first full week at Goddard Park this week. Having been on a Bear Hunt last week, learnt the story, explored the whole school and enjoyed playtimes outside on our new climbing frame, this week we begin learning about Owls using Owl Babies as our focus reading book for the next three weeks. You can expect your child to start telling you all about the different types of Owls, what they eat, where they live and what "Twit Twoo" actually is!

What's with the QR Code at the top of the page?

The QR code takes you straight to the Reception pages on the school website where you can find details of our curriculum, previous newsletters and more. Try it now! In the coming weeks, we will be using QR codes to support learning at home in maths and phonics to make life easier for you!

Meet the staff team:

It has been a pleasure to meet you all, but in case you have not met us all yet – here we are...



Mr Gale - Class teacher - Owls -
Deputy Head teacher



Mrs Pitter - Teacher - Tadpoles



Mrs O'Donnell - Teacher -
Squirrels



Miss Catling - Teacher - Otters



Miss Begley - TA - Otters



Ms Davenport - TA - Owls



Mrs Powdrill - TA - Squirrels



Miss Mason - TA EYFS



Mrs Mobey - TA EYFS



Mrs Skene SENDco



Mrs Mohamed - TA Otters



Mrs Rogers

If you have any questions, you can ask us on the door each morning and after school. However, this is a busy time and whilst we will try and answer anything you have, please bear with us whilst we ensure all children enter school and leave safely with their correct adult. Thank you for your support in this matter ☺

Timings of the school day

Arrival time: 8.30am for register at 8.40am

End of school day: 3.15pm

PE is Thursday and Friday with PE kits in school

Library books are changed each Monday

Collection of children

Until we get to know you well, we will always ask for the password which we have on the school system when you collect your child. Should someone else be picking up your child, please ensure that the office knows (and make us aware in the morning at drop off) and ensure that the alternate person collecting your child has the password. We are not able to let any child leave the school site with an unknown (to us) adult and without a password. Thank you for your support in helping us to keep your child safe.

Have you activated your Parent Pay account?

All of our newsletters will be sent home digitally through ParentPay, including information about trips, visitors and special events. If you have any problems accessing ParentPay, please pop into the office and they can help to sort these issues for you. On Friday, you received your ParentPay details. Please ensure that this works as it will allow you to buy tickets for our Fireworks event in November, be able to register for seats for your child's Nativity, access newsletters, important information and much more.



ClassDojo



ClassDojo



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Class Dojo is coming...

If your child has talked about an egg which they need to hatch, or collected points for their Dojo Monster – there is a very good reason for this. When our children have shown that they are ready for learning, respectful of their friends, adults and resources in the classroom and safe around the classroom, playground and school, they will be awarded Dojo Points. Once your child collects 25 points (usually once a week) they are able to cash their points in to claim a reward – which is an activity in class they would really like to do. That could be playing with the dinosaurs, using the playdough, making a model, playing with the cars, marble run, climbing on the climbing frame – whatever they would like to do, they can cash their points in and enjoy an activity of their choice. Class Dojo also allows you to see what your child has been up to, and also read messages from the class teacher about what the year group have been doing.

Coming home with your child is your guide sheet for Class Dojo. Follow the steps and you can then sit with your child and hatch their egg as well as design their monster on the app. It is free to download and use and they will be using this account throughout their school journey all the way to Year 6. Log on now, hatch the egg and design your child's monster. We look forward to seeing what design you come up with when all the monsters stand together on-screen during class time!

Toothbrushing Permission Slips...

As part of an NHS initiative to reduce tooth extraction and fillings in the teeth of young children, we have once again been selected as a school to receive free toothbrushes and toothpaste for all our children in Early Years. After lunch, every child brushes their teeth using the dry brushing method (no water, no foam, no mess – usually!) to brush their teeth and continue the good habits of oral hygiene which they practice at home. In order to ensure that all children can take part, we require your signed permission. Please return the form which you have received from your class teacher as soon as possible with permission (or not). We aim to start the programme for the whole year next week (15th September).

Your child's phonics journey begins...

This week, your child will be learning the first five pictures for their phonics journey. Each day, a new picture will be added and by the end of the first term, your child will have learnt 25 sounds and begin to blend those sounds into CVC words, e.g. c-a-t = cat



You can help your child by using the phonic handbook which you received in the Summer. If you cannot find it, please let your teacher know and we can help! It is vital that our children make a strong start in their phonics to ensure they make a successful start to their school career.

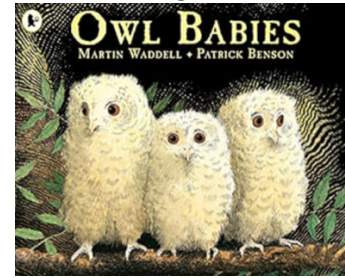
Meet Fred the Frog



Fred the Frog is our Read Write Inc phonics mascot which we use each day to support the children in learning sounds and blending those sounds together. We call this Fred Talk and you will find out more about this soon in our first Parent Phonics Workshop coming later this term.

Fred the Frog goes on lots of adventures and builds the children's vocabulary lesson by lesson.

Our class reading book this week



Like last year, we want to use Fred beyond the classroom with your help. We are going to choose a child each week to take Fred home, with a clip board, paper, pencils and pencil crayons, for our families to write an adventure which Fred has had with them. This might include a special meal, playing in the garden, doing jobs around the house, going to the supermarket, a special day away, a special event. You can also include images and photographs as well as writing. We would then like Fred and your child's writing to be returned on the following Monday so that we can share Fred's adventures with the class and talk about any new words which we need to learn, as well as sharing our experiences with Fred's. We will add his adventures to a class book which will build up over the year and be loved and cherished by every child as they have all taken part in creating it. We would appreciate every family taking part to support each class build relationships and experiences both in and beyond the classroom. If you do not want to take part, please let your class teacher know.

Home learning - Please take the time to share a book with your child each day. Showing your child that you love to read encourages them to be like you and copy your good habits. They will pick up a book and pretend to read, making up stories as they go along using the pictures to help them make sense of what they can see. Please use a range of stories, poems, nursery rhymes, songs and even real-events – like diaries and magazines/comics.

We know that lots of information has been coming home and we appreciate you taking the time to read it all. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in asking us. We will continue to keep you informed through our regular newsletter.

Very best wishes, Mr Gale and the EYFS team
earlyyears@goddardpark.co.uk