



# Welcome to Reception!

Dear parents,

We thank you for choosing our school for your child. The Reception Team feel very privileged to be part of your child's life and we hope you enjoy your time with us at The Downs as much as your children will.

## Termly topics

In our school each term we explore different topics. For our first term is called 'It's a wonderful world' and we will be exploring the wonderful world of minibeasts. Each week we will look at a different minibeast and discover what makes them special. Alongside this the children will be learning about themselves. Finding out what makes them wonderful, what they may have in common with their friends and what might be different.

## Spelling

We will be exploring letters that are all around us in the classroom on signs and posters. During this term we will be sending home a set of sound sheets for the children to share their learning from school with you at home. Please keep their sounds folder in your child's book bag so that we can add extra sounds as we learn them in class. Our aim by the end of this term is for your child to be able recognise and write some sounds correctly and to write their first name independently.

## Numbers

Each week we will focus on one number to help your child recognise the numerals 0-20 and understand what that value means. Please support your child with this by encouraging them to identify numbers in their environment, numbers on front doors, on number plates or on posters. Our aim by the end of this term is for your child to count to at least ten and recognise the numerals to 10.

## Library

By the end of October your child will enjoy a weekly visit to see Mrs Ford, our school librarian, in the library situated in the Goodwins mobile by the field. Each week they will choose a book to borrow and bring home to share with you. Your child is not expected to be able to read it independently but to enjoy sharing the book with you. By reading with your child at home you can promote a good interest in books and develop their imagination by getting lost in a story. Please make sure your child's book is in their book bag on a Monday morning as this is when they will be returned to Mrs Ford ready for your child to select a new one. If you wish to borrow the book again please still return the book on the Monday but add a post it note on the front to say you would like it again.

## Our Class Ladybirds, Lilly and Larry



Lilly and Larry are our two class friends who love spending time with us during the week but get rather lonely over the weekends when there is no one to play with. Lilly and Larry have asked the Reception Team if they can spend the weekends with their friends as well so at the end of each week they will choose someone they are very proud if they can come for a sleep over. Each ladybird comes with a diary for you and your child to record your weekend adventures. These are then shared with the whole class when you return on Monday morning.

Things to remember:

- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm is the Reception Class Meet and Greet. This is an opportunity for us to share we you our first few days and what plans we have for the coming year.
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October the school is closed for a staff training day and reopens for Term two on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October.
- PE kits should remain in school at all times and are stored in your child's locker.
- Water bottles should only contain water and need to be brought into school each day.
- If your child is off school because they are ill can you please contact the school to let us know.

We very much hope you and your child enjoy their first term in the Minibeast classroom. If you have any questions at any time please feel free to speak to any member of the Reception Team.