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Headteacher: Mrs T Swinburne

Friday 16th September 2015

Dear Parent/Carer,

Into the swing

In Reception Class, we have had another super week of settling in to school and learning more about our routines and learning opportunities. As we reach the end of our second week, it is lovely to see the children growing in confidence and beginning to form friendships which we are sure will continue to flourish. We began our Phonics lessons on Thursday and the children were so excited to begin their lifelong adventure of becoming readers! Look out next week for Phonics homework coming home so that you can help your child to practise the sounds they have learned in school. We also had our first 'Talking Floor Book' session this week, in which the children worked in Key Worker Groups using a giant scrapbook. This week, we drew our picture and wrote our name on the first page of our book to show who it belongs to and we will be documenting our learning throughout the year in the subsequent pages. On Wednesday, we had our very first PE session with Mrs Hoole which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We ended our week very proudly, by joining the whole school for our Special Mentions Assembly on Friday. The children were incredibly grown-up in the way they came into assembly and sat smartly to listen to Mrs Swinburne – everyone in the hall was extremely impressed!



Enjoying making cakes together



Our Talking Floor Book



Our very first PE lesson!

The week ahead

Next week, we are looking forward to beginning yet more of our day-to-day learning experiences. As well as lots of learning through play, picking up on the children's interests, we are gradually introducing short, fun sessions to teach the children the key skills they will need to develop in their Reception year. Next week, we will begin our Maths sessions in the afternoon, singing counting songs and exploring counting and number recognition through play in our Malleable Area, where we will be making currant buns from the song '5 Currant Buns'. The children have loved pretending to make cakes in their play this last week, so we will use this interest as an opportunity to practise our Number skills. We will also begin to learn our 'Action Words' – these are words your child will encounter regularly in the books they read and need to learn to read quickly on sight. We teach a

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new word each day, paired with a picture and an action to help the children remember. Again, look out for homework coming home next week to help your child practise reading these words confidently.

Coats please!

Friday was the first sign that the summer may be coming to an end. Please do ensure your child comes to school every day with a coat as your child will be outside whatever the weather. It would help us if you could send your child into school with coats out of bags, ready to hang on pegs in the cloakroom.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Ashton, Mrs Sellars and Miss Belford (the Reception Team)

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