

# Lickey Hills Primary School & Nursery

*dream together • believe together • achieve together*



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to see the children this week coming into school and being so grown up taking care of their belongings, investigating all the different areas in the setting and being super at tidying up.

In Reception we operate a broad and balanced, experiential curriculum which focuses upon the importance of learning through play. The curriculum is delivered through topics and theme days which will change each half term and, after initial getting to know each other, will reflect the children's interests. During the year we will endeavour to keep you fully informed about themes and special days through text messages and the communication folders, which will come home on Fridays. Please return the communication folder on Monday along with your child's reading and home learning books.

These first weeks have been spent getting to know your child, finding out what they can do well and working out their next learning objectives. Beginning next week, the children will work in small groups every day on Literacy and Mathematics activities to promote confident and motivated learners.

In addition, they will have a phonics lesson, which will teach the children the sound that each letter makes as well as how to write it. We will be using the 'Jolly Phonic' system of learning our sounds. This is a multi-sensory approach where there is a different action and song for each sound. Our phonic lessons also incorporate early blending and reading skills as well as segmenting words in preparation for writing. Following the baseline assessments, we have divided the children into 5 smaller groups so that they are working at their own speed and level. We will continue to assess the children throughout the year so these groupings will change depending on each child's needs.

During the coming weeks your child will receive their first home reading book and planner. The first stage in learning to read is by looking at the pictures and memorising the story, please give your child lots of praise for this. This 1:1 reading with your child at home is really beneficial, providing your child a chance to practise what they have learned, build up their reading knowledge and learn about how books work. When they have finished reading the book twice with you please write a comment in their planner, return them to school and we will change it for a new one. Please continue reading other books to your child as it helps them build up vocabulary and story patterns.

We want the children to have lots of fun and enjoy their learning and would like to share their experiences with you through our electronic observation programme, '2Build a profile'. Parents with children from our Nursery setting will continue to enjoy their child's learning journey through to the end of Reception via monthly e-mails. Parents with children new to our school will need to fill in and return the attached form. We then enter your email address in to our 2simple package, which is a secure online system, and we can then share your child's learning journey with you. In addition to

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**Headteacher** Miss Amanda Salisbury, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH



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this, you will also be able to see some of the fun we have been having by checking the Reception pages on the school website.

Thank you for support and patience through the first couple of weeks. We want your child to have a wonderful, happy year in Reception in preparation for the rest of their school life. If you have any questions, concerns or worries, please come in and talk to us any time or contact us through our school email address ([office@lickeyhills.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@lickeyhills.worcs.sch.uk)).

Kind regards

Dr M Kirby and Miss R Cooke

## General Reminders...

Please ensure you have returned any outstanding forms to us from your induction packs and the £10 voluntary creative fund, if you wish to contribute - this fund really does help us to make the year extra special for all of the children with cooking, food tasting and creative activities. Can we ask that this is cash and not cheque.

All children need to have a coat with them in school every day. Even if the weather is lovely in the morning, by lunchtime it could be raining and we will be walking to the main building for lunch and PE. The children will also continue to choose outdoor learning and play whatever the weather!

The children will be provided with a daily snack of milk and fruit. We ask that they bring in a water bottle, labelled with their name, from home each day so that can have a drink of water when they need.

Please can we ask you not to allow your child to climb the stage on our playground (including siblings) before or after school. We need to ensure that the children are safe at all times!

## 2Build a profile

My child is new to your school and I wish to receive monthly learning journey updates

OR

My child attended LHPSN nursery but I would like to change to the following email address:

Child's name

Class

Please use the following email address to send me updates on my child's progress in school

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