Briar Road, Shepperton
Middlesex, TW17 0JB
Tel: 01932 563035
Email: info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk
Website: www.saxonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss N. Morris BA (Hons)
Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

Dear Reception Families,

We are so proud of the children and delighted with how well they are settling into school life! If your child is still a little upset in the morning, please don't worry. It is completely normal and they are well looked after once they get in to the classroom. If we have any specific concerns of course we will always let you know.

Meet The Teacher

Thank you to those parents who were able to come to our Meet the Teacher session last week. As part of the session we handed out the Early Learning Goals the children are working towards in their Reception year. Please find them attached to this email.

Learning

We are having a big focus on name-writing so please continue to practice this at home (capital letter at the beginning **only** please.). Children can practice writing their name anywhere; it does not always have to be on paper! Try writing in soap on the side of the bath, steamed up windows, in a tray of sand or chalk on the ground.

Our topic for this term is 'Super Me'

Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.

Communication, Language & Literacy:

- We will read the story The Invisible String by Patrice Karst. We will be thinking about people who are special to us.
- Children will be encouraged to use appropriate vocabulary and full sentences to describe themselves and their family members. We will also discuss how to be a good listener when it is someone else's turn to talk.
- Children will continue to practice writing their name.

Phonics

This week's phonics sounds are sounds i, n, m and d. Below you can see how we teach the children to form these letters. You could have a go at doing this together; with your magic finger in the air, on your palm or on each other's backs, using play-dough or chalking on the ground.

i iguana	Down the iguana and dot the leaf.
n net	Down, up and over the net.
m mouse	Down, up and over the mouse's ears.
d duck	Round the duck's body, up to its head and down to its feet.

Reading at home:
On Friday each child will take home a 'wordless book' to help them begin their reading journey!
On the Little Wandle website there are ideas for supporting your child with reading, including a video about how to use wordless books at home.
https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabBooksComingHome
There is lots of other information about phonics here for parents, including the order of the different sounds and how we teach them in school.

Please put the wordless books inside book bags when you have finished sharing them at home, we will collect them in every **Wednesday** ready for sending out new ones every **Friday**.
Sharing books will be sent home next week, when children have visited the Library Bus. We will send out more information next week.

An extra challenge to try at home!
Can your child identify the **first and final sound** in a word? For example 'mud' (first sound 'm', last sound 'd'). We will continue to work on this throughout the Autumn term.
Oral blending is an essential skill we cover every day in school. Support your child by sounding out a simple word (ie c-u-p) and encourage them to say the whole word.

Maths:
We will provide lots of opportunities for careful counting (we call this 1 to 1 correspondance).
We will encourage plenty of 'matching' activities such as matching socks, pairs of pictures, classroom items (2 pencils, 2 dice etc) etc.
The children could also pracitice these activities at home.

Other Areas of Learning:
- **UW (Understanding the World) –** we will talk about our families and discuss how all families are different.
- **PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)-** “Being Me in My World” – I understand what it feels like to belong and that we are similar and different.
- **EAD (Expressive arts and design) –** we will make pictures of our family members.
- **PD (Physical development)-** We will continue to practice moving in different ways e.g. skipping, hopping and jumping.

Notices/reminders:

- Today, you should have received an email link to activate your **Tapestry** account. When it is set up we will begin to post photos and observations of the children engaging in their learning. We will aim to upload at least 1 photo a week for each child so do keep checking! These observations are a wonderful insight into what they have been doing in school (and a good reminder for them when they can’t remember!) You can also use it to share learning, experiences and achievments with us too.
- Look out for the class Chatterbox coming your way! When your child brings this home they can put up to 6 items in it to share and talk about with the class the following day. In the past children have brought in a favourite toy or 2, a photograph of a special person or memory, a loved book (we can read this to the class during Story Time) or something to show off a specific hobby (for example, ballet shoes, swimming goggles, trophy/certificate.) This is an opportunity to develop speaking and listening skills including understanding turn-taking and asking/answering questions. Please don’t worry if your child is a little nervous about speaking to the class, they will be well supported by a teacher!
- Class teddies will also begin to go home for the weekend. Please take up to 5 photos of your child sharing adventures with the teddy, for example, having lunch together, playing in the park or on a visit to see friends. Please post the photos on Tapestry and we will share them with the class on Mondays.

As always please come and see us if there are any concerns or questions, we are happy to help.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Lewis, Miss Margetts and Mrs Morley