



September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday. We are looking forward to an exciting and successful year with your children. The first few days will be spent settling into new classes and getting used to new routines.

Just a gentle reminder that snacks in the morning should include fresh fruit, dried fruit or vegetables and the afternoon snack can be breadsticks, rice cakes, fruit or vegetables or a simply filled sandwich. Please no chocolate or nut products.

The seven areas of learning will be delivered through our topic for this term which is called Yum! Yum! We will be finding out where our food comes from and learning about healthy eating. To help develop an awareness of the wider world and where our food originates we will be asking children to bring in labels /packaging from food produced in different countries. We will also be looking at different festivals and food associated with them.

The 'Stunning Start' to our topic will be a Teddy Bears' Picnic. Later in the term, our local bee keeper will be coming in to talk to us about a bear's favourite food, honey! To provide further first hand experiences our 'Marvellous Middle' will be a trip to the Lesbourne Road Bakery. We will also be having a 'behind the scenes' visit to our school kitchen and having some cooking opportunities of our own! Our topic will culminate in a 'Fabulous Finish' when you will be invited in to share some homemade biscuits with your child during Open Classroom on 14th December.

There will be regular phonics sessions during which the children will be learning new letter sounds and developing the skills of blending and segmenting for reading and spelling. As mentioned at 'Meet the New Teacher' new sounds to learn will be sent home along with activities and reading books if appropriate. It would help your child if you could spend some time going over these together. Please remember to sign the reading record book daily and add any relevant comments.

In Maths we will be counting (forwards and backwards), recognising and ordering numbers and beginning to solve problems through practical activities. We will also be looking at 2D/ 3D shapes, patterns, data handling, height, length and money. There will be lots of maths opportunities created through our topic work and we look forward to measuring and weighing as we cook!

As a school we focus on one thinking skill and one value for each half term. The thinking skill for the first half of the Autumn term is 'Good Judgement' and the value is 'Courage'. After half term we will be looking at 'Respect' and 'Empathy'. These will be incorporated into circle times and assemblies.

After half term we will be looking forward to Christmas with lots of glitter and of course the Early Years concert – watch this space!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak to us at any time.

Kind regards

Reception Staff