Year R Newsletter
Autumn 1 2025

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you and your child to Oasis Academy Ryelands. We have an exciting year ahead of us and we look forward to working with you to support your child in their first year of school.

Every Friday we shall be sending out a Weekly Newsletter that will help you become familiar with the daily routine, how you can support and contribute to your child's learning and how we will be teaching your child to read and write. Every Friday, children will be given a piece of 'Talk Homework' to promote their language development and enable them to participate more fully in class discussions.

Our Curious Question this half term is "**I've just joined school. Can I learn about my place in the world?**". Each week we will cover a fun topic, which is linked to our Curious Question. Which will give us plenty of opportunity to really get to know each child and find out what they are interested in. We will plan daily activities that engage and inspire them into young learners. Overleaf, you will be able to see the types of activities we will be undertaking and how they relate to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the seven areas of learning.

Reception Baseline Assessment

In the first 6 weeks at school all children in Reception complete the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills. It is nothing the children must revise for or to worry about, simply an assessment to create a baseline for each child's education.

Attendance

It is important that your child's attendance remains above 97% so that they do not fall behind.

Notices

- We hope you are settled into the dropping off and collecting routine in Reception. Each morning the children enter the classroom, write their names and come and sit down on the carpet.
- If you have arranged for someone to collect your child not listed on the collection form, for safety reasons, please ensure that you let us know in advance.
- In order for children to access the outdoor area in all weather conditions, it would be extremely useful if children had a **raincoat** and a pair of **wellies** that could be kept in school.
- We are always looking for random bits and bobs to enhance our provision. If you are sending anything to charity or getting rid of any old kitchen equipment etc. Please let us know as we may be interested in using it!
- School uniform, coats, hats and scarves can be easily mislaid, so PLEASE ensure that your child's name is clearly marked on each item.
- Long hair should be tied up and hair bands and accessories should be school colours only, blue, black and white. Children should not have any nail varnish or temporary tattoos on whilst at school.
- All children are entitled to free school milk until their 5th birthday. However, parents must register their child for them to receive daily milk. Visit www.coolmilk.com to register.
- Every Friday, the children will take home a reading book. We use reading records as our reading log. Please record the name of your child's book and a short comment about your child's reading experience, after you read with them. If your child enjoys other stories during the week, feel free to log these in the book and tell us about them. This way the children will create a list of all the stories they have read and enjoyed over the year. When the children reach a level of independent reading, they will begin taking home a book banded book. More information will be shared with you at the appropriate time.

Mathematics

We will be encouraging children to count, recognise and order numbers in a range of practical activities. We will explore shapes and measures as we look closely at our bodies and make patterns with our hands and feet. We will sing counting songs and read number rhymes together. We will also use 2D and 3D shapes in our construction work and will encourage problem solving in real-life situations.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During these first few weeks, children will learn a great deal about relationships and how to get along with new people. They will be introduced to activities to develop new skills and have opportunities to play alone, alongside and with other children. We will be supporting children to share resources, solve problems and understand different points of view.

Communication and Language

We will be encouraging children to talk about themselves and model good speaking and listening during our group time discussions. We use 'Talk Partners' to enable all children to participate fully.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be exploring different types of creative expression as we look at the work of different artists, such as, Warhol and Kandinski. We will look closely at our features to make self-portraits that will form part of a gallery display for all children to see. We will move and dance to music that reflects who we are and where we come from and sing some of our favourite songs.

I've just started school. Can I learn about my place in the world?

Literacy

Your child will begin to learn letters sounds and key words through our daily phonics sessions. We will practise our letter formation through modelled shared writing and develop our pencil grip through tailored activities.

Understanding the World

In their new school, the children will use their senses to explore and investigate their classroom and the outdoor areas. We will talk about parts of our body and use the interactive write board to explore technology. We will also use the iPads to take pictures of our work, to capture our learning.

Physical Development

We open up the outdoor area at 9.30am to allow children to move freely and use the range of available resources. Children will be encouraged to talk about the changes to their bodies after they have been active and will have many opportunities and challenges to develop both their fine and gross motor skills. We also have weekly P.E sessions in which the children will develop a range of skills from ball skills to movement. Wren and Robin's PE session is on a Friday – children to come to school wearing their PE kit on a Friday.

Reception Team

Robin Class

Teacher: Mrs Carew

Teaching Assistant: Miss Prosper

Wren Class

Teacher: Mrs Plews

Teaching Assistant: Miss Beason

Early Years Phase Leader: Mrs Carew