

Reception 2024

Welcome letter



Welcome to Reception at Ben Rhydding Primary School.

The Early Years team (Miss Alston and Miss Kelly) is looking forward to a fun filled, exciting and rewarding year and hope your child will enjoy and be happy in their Foundation Stage of learning. Over the next few weeks, I will be sending out lots of information to you; if you find you are not receiving any information through parent mail – School Ping (the school’s communication system), please could you let the Office staff know and check they have an up-to-date email address for you. Also, if you require paper copies of correspondence, this can be arranged through the Office staff.

To begin with, your child is only in school for the morning, and they will need to be collected at 12 noon (Tuesday and Wednesday) and 12:30 (Thursday and Friday), from outside the School Office. The school day starts at 8.45am and school finishes at 3:10pm for Reception children, once the children are full time. In the morning, for the first two weeks, you are welcome to come into the outdoor area with your child to help them settle. After this settling in period, I will be expecting the children to come into the Reception area by themselves. They will line up on a morning. I will show them where to stand nearer the time. When collecting your child in the afternoon, please could you wait outside the Reception play area and I will bring the children out to you.

I require written permission for anyone collecting your child if it is not you. This could be a one off or a regular arrangement. You can also email the office any alternative arrangements and myself on lucy.alston@benrhydding.bradford.sch.uk

There is a house system in school. Your child will be allocated to one of the houses (Aire, Nidd, Swale and Wharfe) and will be awarded house points during the week. At the end of the year, the winning house gets a treat. The children are very proud to get points and it encourages them to work together as a team. They will find out which house they are in towards the back end of this week.

We will start PE once the children have settled in school full time. PE will take place on a Friday morning. Our first PE session will take place on Friday 20th September. On the day of PE, children can come to school in their PE kits with warm clothes on top e.g., like a track suit or leggings and a jumper. Children can wear trainers or pumps on this day.

There will be a meeting about phonics and supporting early reading development for you to attend on Wednesday 16th October at 4pm. It lasts about an hour. If you cannot make the meeting I can send you a video about it. After this meeting, we will send home reading books for you and your child to read at home. They are sent home on a Friday and changed the following Friday. Please ensure your child has their book bag in school every day as this helps us if we have letters or flyers to give out.

Each day the children will have the option to have fruit and help themselves to water throughout the day. You are welcome to provide your child with a water bottle (please send only water to school). Children can have milk and you should have received some information about this from the school office. You will need to order and pay for milk by going on the website www.coolmilk.com/parents. They will receive free milk until the Friday before their 5th birthday.

Please check your child’s hair for head lice / eggs and treat regularly. It is helpful if you could let a member of staff know if your child has had head lice. I can then send an email around asking all parents to check children’s hair.

Throughout the year, your child may become ill. Please ring the school office to inform school of their absence. If your child is suffering from sickness or diarrhoea, they need to be off school for 48 hours, from the last episode of sickness / diarrhoea. The school staff can only give medication which has been prescribed by the Doctor. You will need to fill out a consent form for this. If your child has an appointment, for example a medical appointment, please go to the school office and fill out a form to notify the school of the absence. You will be required to show proof of the appointment e.g. a letter or appointment card.

I hope your child will be happy in their new school and that they have a fun and productive year. I observe and record your child's learning throughout the year and to help us do this we use a program called SeeSaw. At the end of each half term, you will receive a copy of the observations and photographs of your child's learning from SeeSaw. Please share any WOW moments your child has with us; you can either fill in a WOW form or email me. You will find copies of WOW forms in your child's book bag.

If you would like to know more about what your child has been learning about in Reception, then please have a look at our page on the school website (www.benrhydding.ngfl.ac.uk). You will find information about the learning taking place each week, dates for diaries and resources to help support learning at home. The page is updated each Friday, so you know what the children have been doing each week. To access the page, you will need to click on the link that says Pupils, Year groups and then Reception or click on the link below <http://www.benrhydding.ngfl.ac.uk/reception/>

Please discourage your child from bringing toys to school as they can become lost or broken. With regards to 'Show and Tell', we will set up a rota based on your child's house within the next couple of weeks. More details to follow soon.

Stay and Play sessions will begin after half term. You will receive the dates of these sessions soon.

We have a buddy system at Ben Rhydding Primary School, where Reception children are paired with a member of the Year 6 class. We try to avoid pairing family members together. Your child will find out who their buddy is when they start full time. Throughout the year, the children do activities together as well as going on a trip to Nell Bank together at the end of the year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know and I will try to help the best I can. I'm available before and after school. Generally, after school is better as there is usually more time. You can telephone / email the office and they will pass on your messages; or you can email me directly. I will endeavour to answer emails as soon as possible.

Our learning theme for this half term is Magnificent Me! Where the children will be learning all about themselves and things that are important to them. We will be talking about our families the week beginning the 16th September. If you would like to send in a family photograph or email me one, please do for this week.

Lastly, to celebrate 'Talk Like a Pirate Day' on Thursday 19th September, we will be having a pirate day. We will be doing activities based on the pirate theme and children can come to school dressed like a pirate, if they want to.

Thank you,
Miss. L. Alston