



Parent Overview Meeting

**Please write your child's name in the chat
while we wait for everyone to arrive**



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years.

- There are 7 areas of learning

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development
- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Find out more about the EYFS educational programmes and the Early Learning Goals [here](#).

Early Learning Goals for Reception

3 Prime Areas

- **Communication and Language**
 - listening, attention and understanding
 - speaking
- **Personal, Social, Emotional Development**
 - self regulation
 - managing self
 - building relationships
- **Physical Development**
 - gross motor skills
 - fine motor skills

4 Specific Areas

- **Literacy**
 - comprehension
 - word reading
 - writing
- **Mathematics**
 - number
 - numerical patterns
- **Understanding the world**
 - past and present
 - people, culture and communities
 - the natural world
- **Expressive arts and design**
 - creating with materials
 - being imaginative and expressive

The Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning.

- The characteristics of effective teaching and learning are a statutory requirement of the EYFS.
- They detail the ways in which children should be learning from their environment, from their experiences and from activities they engage in.
 - **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
 - **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
 - **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

Attaining the Early Learning Goals (ELG) and the Good Level of Development (GLD)

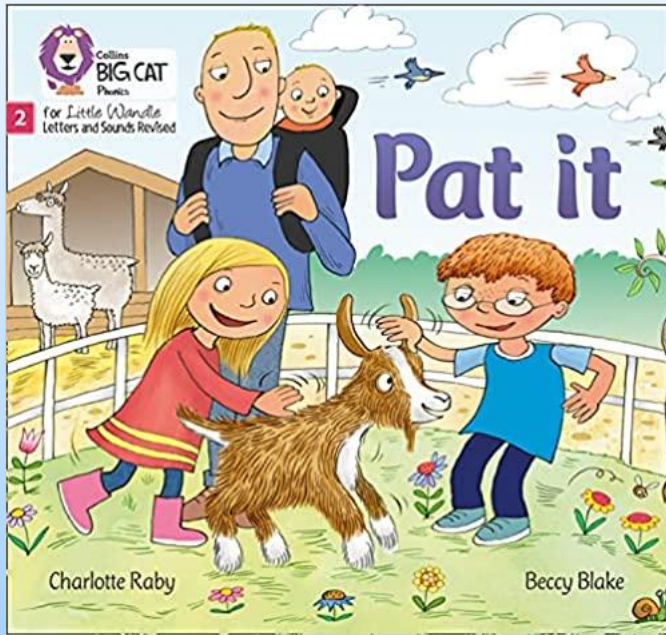
- At the end of Reception we assess the children using the early learning goals found in the early years framework.
- We make 'best fit' judgements – 'emerging' or 'expected'.
- We do not test the children. Our assessments are based on classroom observations.
- In order to attain a 'Good Level of Development' a child must attain the Early Learning Goals in all of the Prime Areas of Learning and in the Specific Areas of Literacy and Mathematics.

Phonics

We teach phonics daily and follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds (Revised) synthetic phonics programme.

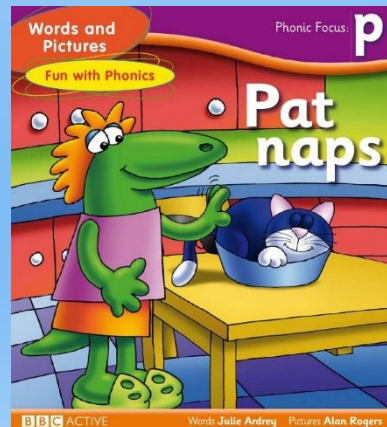
We will let you know which sounds we are teaching the children so that you can support us and your child by reviewing and practising these at home. When practising sounds it is important that you teach the 'soft' sounds.

- We also focus on the skills of blending and segmenting. These are the skills that the children need for both reading and writing.
- We will also be learning 'high frequency' and 'tricky' words (these are words that cannot easily be de-coded). We will let you know which words we are learning so that you can also practise these at home.
- Follow the link [here](#) to access Little Wandle resources for parents. These will help you to support your child with saying their sounds and writing their letters.



Reading – Decodable Books

- Wordless books – the children will all start with wordless books. These books tell the story in pictures and provide lots of wonderful opportunities for talking about stories, story structure, developing vocabulary and making up stories too.
- Once your child has mastered the first set of phonic sounds and is becoming more confident with blending, fully decodable reading books will be introduced. This reading practise book will be at the correct phonic stage for your child.
- Your child should be able to read this book independently.



Reading at home

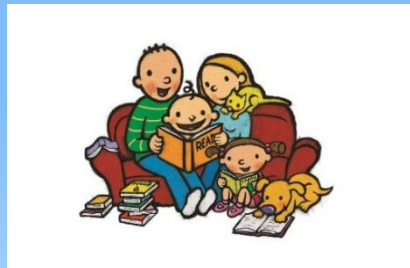
Please remember that the book that is sent home will already have been read at school and it will be at the correct reading level for your child. We recommend that you read the book and celebrate your child's growing confidence. You can ensure that your child is reading the words fluently, using their developing decoding skills, retelling the story, discussing the characters. In this way you can encourage good opportunities for discussion, comprehension and understanding.



New books will go out on Fridays and a phonics activity will be sent home on a Monday to be completed during the week (based on the previous week's phonics learning).

Once a week your child will also bring home a 'sharing book' from our school or class library. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Ultimately we want all of our children to become 'lifelong readers' and it is important that you continue to read for pleasure - children enjoy listening to favourite stories over and over again, visiting the local library, making their own choices about which story or information book to read. Have fun together and enjoy learning new facts or making up voices for story book characters.



Reading Diary



Please date and sign the reading record book every time you read with your child, adding a brief comment to let us know how your child is getting on.

At the back there is a 'reading for pleasure' log.

Please remember this is also the home-school communication book.

Please send these into school everyday.

Mathematics

- We teach maths daily
- There are lots of opportunities for counting accurately, matching numerals to quantity and problem solving
- We learn through practical work – play, art, outdoor activities involving numbers and shapes
- We play interactive whiteboard games
- We encourage investigations
- We read stories and base activities involving numbers and patterns on stories



Show and Tell

- Show and Tell will be on Fridays.
- Encourage your child to bring in a photo, book or a souvenir. You might like to have a 'rehearsal' at home of what to say. Speaking, Listening, Attention and Understanding are a very important part of the curriculum, and talking from their experiences helps to build children's confidence.



Parent Voice



Children can have very different experiences at school and at home. We value finding out about your child's interests and what learning they are doing at home. This helps us to have a fuller understanding of their achievements.

Please use Evidence Me to share your child's learning and significant achievements with us. This could include any aspect of learning, for example: learning to ride a bike, dressing themselves or enjoying family occasions.

Topics in Reception

Subject to change depending on the interests of the children.

- Autumn 1 - Who loves me? (Autumn festivals)
- Autumn 2 - Why do leaves go crispy? (Christmas)
- Spring 1 - Which was the biggest Dinosaur?
- Spring 2 - Did dragons exist? (Easter)
- Summer 1 - Why do spiders spin webs?
- Summer 2 - Are eggs alive?

Reminders:

- Book bags – please check these daily as this is where any messages/letters will be. Please **do not** put your child's drink bottle in their book bags.
- Snack time. We provide fruit every morning, so please do not send in a snack. The children have access to their water bottles throughout the day.
- If you have registered your child for milk on **Cool Milk.com**, they will have this at snack time. Remember that the milk is free until your child turns 5. We will inform you if your child is not drinking their milk so you can cancel your order if need be.
- Illness and allergies – inform office if you haven't done so already. We must know this for snack time, lunch time and for when we do cooking too.
- Please label everything, even socks, if you don't want to lose them!
- Packed lunches – **NO chocolate, seeds or nuts please.**
- PE days will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays depending on weather. Please encourage independent dressing and undressing at home (buttons, zips etc).
- No earrings or jewellery at school please. If your child already has pierced ears please do not put earrings on them for PE days
- Please inform us in writing if your child is being picked up by someone different. If this person is unknown to us they must bring photo ID with them

Please use our class emails if you need to contact us.

pluto@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk

venus@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk

Remember that communications relating *to illness, absence or pick up arrangements* need to be handled by the office.

thank you!

For listening and for your ongoing support!