

Autumn Term

2016

Reception

*Ourselves,
Festivals and
Celebrations*



Reception

Welcome to Year R

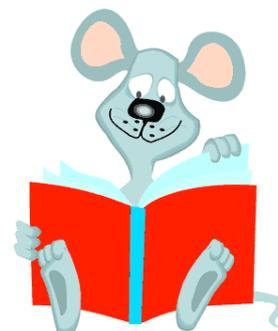
MR	RR
<p>Miss Mansfield <i>Class Teacher</i></p> <p>Miss Spence <i>Teaching Assistant</i></p> <p>Mrs Page <i>Teaching Assistant</i></p>	<p>Mrs Reason <i>Class Teacher</i></p> <p>Mrs Baker <i>Teaching Assistant</i></p>
<p>Mrs Brunson and Miss Ippolito <i>Additional Teaching Assistants working in both classes for different amounts of time throughout the year.</i></p>	



We hope that you find all of the information in this leaflet useful; if you have any further questions about the term ahead please feel free to come and talk to us. Please also read the leaflet about Starting School in your Welcome Pack from last term.

Your child will shortly bring home a reading book, flashcards and reading record book. Following this, please ensure that they bring these to school every day.

To support the Letters and Sounds teaching in the classroom, please read with your child for a short period every day and practise their flashcards. Your child will not only benefit from reading to you but also from hearing you read to them.



We encourage each child to learn and follow simple daily routines in order to make them independent and responsible for their own belongings. It would be an enormous help to the staff and your child if you could ensure that they have:

- their PE kit in school every day.
Our PE days are: MR - Monday.
RR - Tuesday.
- their book bag, lunch box (if they need one), snack (if they want one) and water (no juice please) each morning.

Please ensure that all of your child's clothing is named, including all P.E. kit.

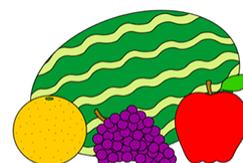
For health and safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. If your child has pierced ears, earrings should be studs only. Earrings must be removed before school on days when we have P.E. lessons.

Long hair must be tied back for games; we would also appreciate it, if children with long hair could tie it back during the general school day with plain and simple bands, clips or ribbons in brown, black or maroon.



Nail varnish should not be worn in school.

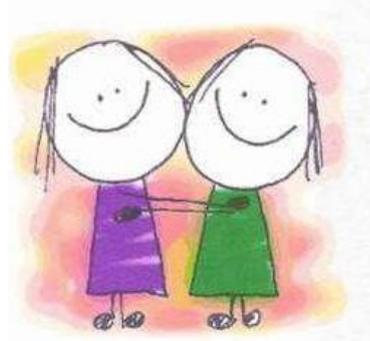
Daily fruit is available to the children during the morning, but they are also welcome to bring fresh fruit or vegetables from home.



Topics for this term.

Our first topic this year is 'All about me'. In this topic we will be thinking about:

-  What makes me special
-  My family
-  My senses
-  Things I like/don't like
-  My favourite things
-  My home
-  My friends
-  Keeping myself healthy



Our second topic this term focuses on 'Festivals and Celebrations' and will include:

-  **Harvest** ~ We will look at how our natural environment changes throughout the season of Autumn. This includes visiting our Nature Reserve.
We will also think about how we get our food and why harvest time is so important. We will make our own bread mice.
-  **Diwali** ~ We will find out how families from the Hindu and Sikh faiths celebrate Diwali.
-  **Fireworks** ~ We will think about how we can keep safe. We will also include looking at pattern and colour.
-  **Christmas** ~ We will find out how and why Christians celebrate Christmas. The children will learn about the birth of Jesus within the Nativity story.



All of our topics will be cross-curricular and include the various strands from the Foundation Stage Curriculum:

- PSED - Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- CL - Communication and Language
- PD - Physical Development
- M - Mathematics
- L - Literacy
- U+W - Understanding the World
- EAD - Expressive arts and Creative Development

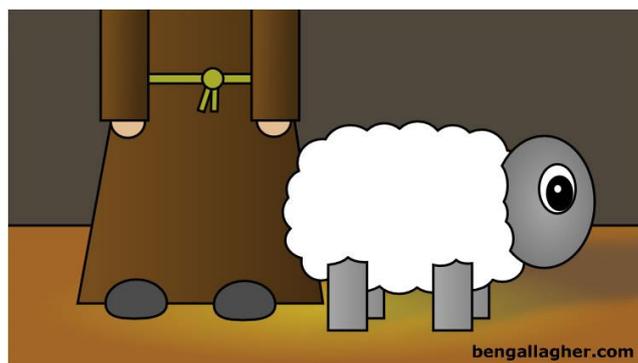
Important Dates

On the afternoon of Tuesday 20th September, there will be an informal meeting in the hall for all parents to discuss learning in Reception. We will share with you how you can support your child's reading and learning at home. We hope you will be able to attend. Please check your child's book bag for more details about this event.

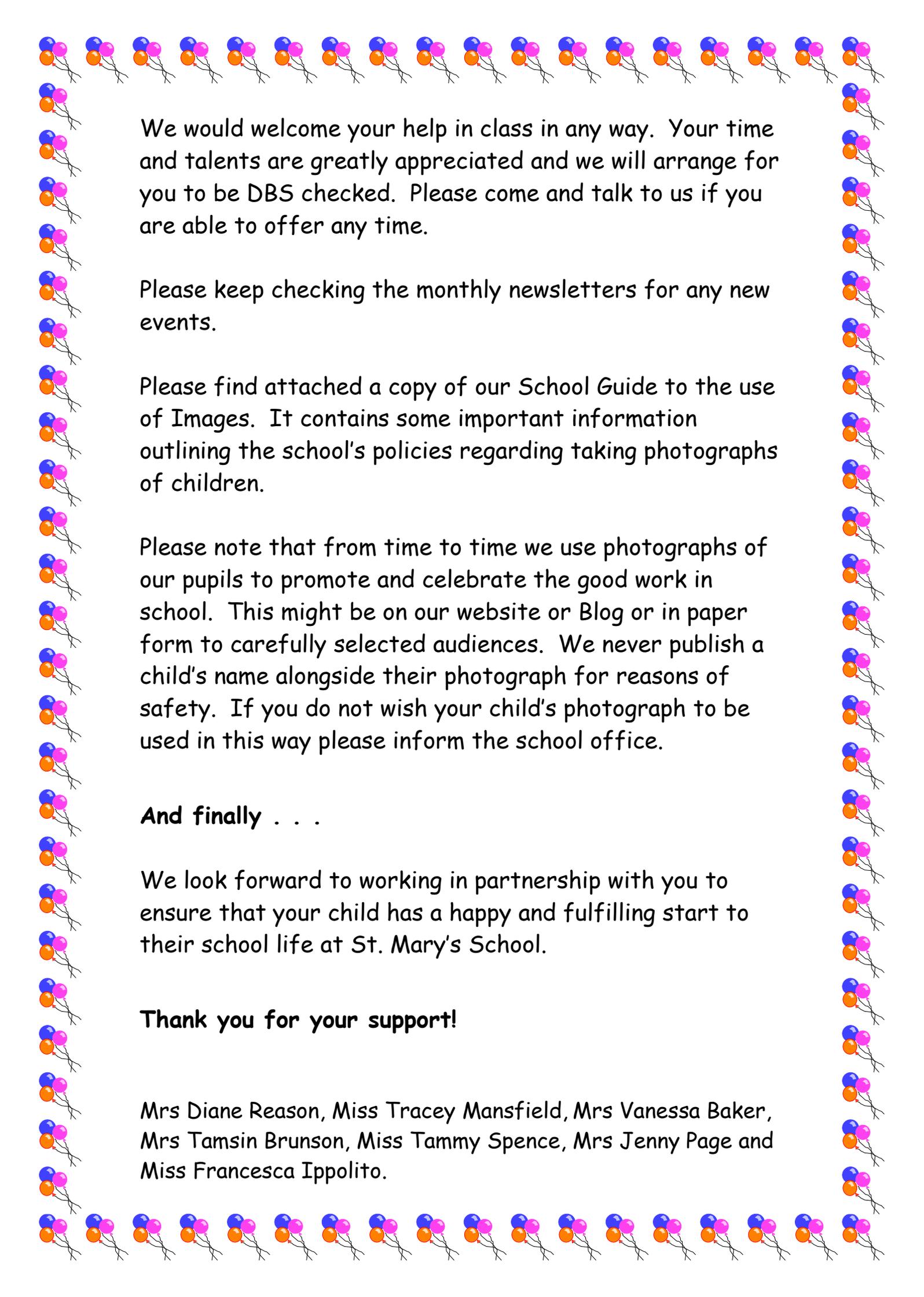
Introductory Tea Party on Friday 7th October at 2.15 pm. In the Reception Garden, weather permitting.

Harvest Festival (with Tenterfield Nursery) at St. Mary's Church - 9.30, Monday October 3rd - more details to follow.

This term our Christmas performance to parents will take place on Tuesday 13th December at 1.30 pm. More details to follow.



Gerald finally found his calling:
third sheep on the left in the school nativity



We would welcome your help in class in any way. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated and we will arrange for you to be DBS checked. Please come and talk to us if you are able to offer any time.

Please keep checking the monthly newsletters for any new events.

Please find attached a copy of our School Guide to the use of Images. It contains some important information outlining the school's policies regarding taking photographs of children.

Please note that from time to time we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in school. This might be on our website or Blog or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used in this way please inform the school office.

And finally . . .

We look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that your child has a happy and fulfilling start to their school life at St. Mary's School.

Thank you for your support!

Mrs Diane Reason, Miss Tracey Mansfield, Mrs Vanessa Baker, Mrs Tamsin Brunson, Miss Tammy Spence, Mrs Jenny Page and Miss Francesca Ippolito.