Welcome to Reception!

We are very pleased to welcome all of the children to Reception.
Here are a few notes to let you know a little more about life in Reception this year:

- Arrival and Pick up

Please, please ensure that you keep to the times for our year group, which are;
Arrival – Any time between 8:30-8:55am through the main gate on Abbotsbury Road and through your child's classroom door.
Pick up –3:10 from the classroom door.
In order to allow everyone to use the school entrances safely, we are not allowed to permit any child to enter the gates outside of the given times. If you arrive late, you will need to enter by the main school gate and come in through the school reception.
Please note that we will only dismiss children at the end of the day to adults that have been identified on your 'permission to collect' list and that our policy is not to allow children under the age of 16 to collect

- Communication

Two-way communication is very important. We will send general messages about things that are happening in Reception via email and any personal messages about your child will be made directly to you. If you have something that you need to let us know, please send in a short note or message with your child. If you have a concern that you need to discuss fully, please ring school and leave a message. We will try to return your call or make an appointment to speak with you as soon as we can. Please be patient. The school has a limited number of phone lines and we will be teaching most of the time. We will not ignore your message but we might not be able to make an immediate reply. We are almost always available at the end of the school day to speak with parents about any concerns or information that needs to be shared. Please also look out for updates about your child's learning on Google Classroom.

- Homework and Reading

The main aim of our homework is to help our children develop the key skills that they need in Literacy and Maths that underpin much of their other learning. We expect that children will share stories with an adult **every** day. Your child will bring home a reading book suitable for their level of development and a story book for an adult to read to them. Please make sure that reading time is enjoyable at home and not a chore! Be positive and enjoy sharing and talking about the books together. The children will also be working on key maths skills, such as counting, recognising numerals and subitising and will be given activities to help with this. Some of these will be online resources, such as Numbots.
A list of suggested activities that you could also do to support your child's learning at home will be put on Google Classroom at the start of each new topic and we would really appreciate you getting involved and helping your child to enjoy the activities. Whilst these are not compulsory, we would love to see what you have done and encourage the

children to show us the things that they have completed or photos of things that they have been up to.

PE and Equipment

PE will start in January and we will send a separate letter, with more information, nearer the time.

- Topic

Our first topic is 'All About Me'
Details of the main areas to be covered in our topic work are uploaded onto our website in topic knowledge organisers. These show the main areas that will be covered and will include some key vocabulary that you could help your child with at home. You can help with our topic work by asking your children questions about what they have learned each week, get them to tell you any new words that they have learned linked to the subject and maybe attempt a suggested activity or visit linked to the topic.

Trips and Visits

Trips are a highlight of each school year and we always try to give the children these extra experiences. We will try to book trips that are free, whenever possible, but sometimes will have to ask for a contribution towards the cost. This year, we are intending to go on the following trips:

- Local visits to the park and shops
- Morden Library
- Walks around the meadow
- Morden Hall Park
- The garden centre

We look forward to sharing all of our exciting achievements with you this year.
Many thanks for your support

Miss Dalton, Miss Nuur and the Reception Team.