

# Early Years Newsletter Autumn Term 2019



Tannery Drift  
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

[www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to all our families after the summer. We hope you are ready for lots of exciting learning in the autumn term. We have spent time over the last few weeks preparing our garden and courtyard in the hope that the sunny weather continues and we have lots of opportunities for exploring the outdoors.

### Topics and themes for this half-term

This half term Nursery and Reception will be exploring the theme of 'Ourselves and Our Families' as a way of getting to know each other and make new friends. We will use our scrap books as a starting point for discussions and these will come home during every school holiday so you are able to add more photos and pictures for us to share.

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding a welcome and information evening for Nursery and Reception parents at 6pm. In addition to meeting the staff and other parents, you will gain information about the curriculum for the upcoming year. On this occasion we would be grateful if you could make childcare arrangements.

### Tapestry and Parent Contributions

In Early Years we always value your contributions to your child's learning and development. As you are aware, we use the online learning journal Tapestry to record what your child is learning throughout the year and publish observations that you are able to comment on. As well as this we would also like to encourage you to upload observations of what your child achieves at home. These can be moments that they are particularly proud of or

something you recognise them doing for the first time.

### PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!

The importance of this cannot be stressed enough! Please make sure that **everything** your child brings to school is clearly labelled with their name, including their shoes! Whether you sew in labels, use self-adhesive ones or a permanent pen, please make sure you do this. Unlabelled items are extremely hard to match up to their owner and young children often do not recognise their belongings, especially when they look almost identical to everyone else's. This can cause distress and upset which is easily avoidable.

### Plimsolls

If your child does not yet have a pair of plimsolls at school please provide them with a pair as soon as possible. All children change into indoor shoes when they come inside and as the weather becomes wetter and muddier this is even more necessary.

### Wellies

Please also provide wellies as the children will not be allowed to go on the grass without them. As the weather begins to get colder and wetter it is **essential** that all the children have a pair.

### Water bottles and book bags

School water bottles and book bags are ideal for your child to bring each day as they can be easily and clearly labelled. Please remember that classroom water bottles should only contain water.

### Accidents

As your child starts Nursery or Reception toilet accidents may happen, even if they have previously not been an issue. Often children get so engrossed in what they are doing that by the time they realise they need to go to the toilet it is too late! Accidents are always dealt with sensitively by staff and if your child does not have their own spare clothes at school they will be provided with some. Please make sure that these spares are washed and returned as we do not have a limitless supply.

### Toys

We ask that children do **not** bring toys to school.

### Birthday books

We feel strongly about promoting a healthy lifestyle to children in school and therefore have made the decision in Early Years to introduce a new way that children can contribute something on their birthday. Instead of sweet treats we would like to request that children bring in a 'birthday book' that can be donated to their class. This book will be shared with the whole class at story time and then kept in school for the children to share with each other in our book corners.

### Older Siblings

When dropping off and picking up children from our Early Years classrooms please make sure that siblings are with you at all times as play equipment and resources in our garden have been mistreated and broken by visiting children in the past.

### Discussions with staff and other communications

For a quick hand over of information please speak to staff at the start of the day. For longer conversations please arrange a time after school by speaking to staff in the morning. We know it is very important to share information and may also ask to speak to you after school. All letters (including those about absence) and

monies should go directly to the office; please do not put them in book bags.

To keep informed about important school dates and events please refer to the school website and read our weekly school newsletter that is sent via ParentMail.

### Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 6pm–6:45pm – Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Parent Consultations

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Parent Consultations

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Open Classrooms

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Reception Nativity

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity

### **Best wishes from The Early Years Team**



*Enjoyment, achievement, respect*