



☆ Aim high & be a Star ☆

Greenways Primary Academy

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2nd September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Reception! We hope that you all had a brilliant summer holiday and are ready to begin the new school year. We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year.

Our focus for this half term will be on ensuring that all the children feel happy, settled and secure in their new environment. We will be helping the children to gain confidence and become aware of the routines and expectations in Reception class. Our first topic of the year is 'Who Am I?' The children will be exploring what is special about them and discussing similarities and differences within the class. They will explore their new classroom and discuss our class promises. We will read the book *Harry and the Dinosaurs Go to School* discussing how the children felt on their first day discussing feelings raised from the story.

As part of the 'Who Am I?' topic, the children will create self-portraits to stick into the front of their writing journals. We will look closely at the detail on our faces and think carefully about the shape of our eyes, nose and lips. We will also be discussing how to create different colours and select which paintbrush to use for different features. In Literacy we will use the book *Handa's Surprise* by Eileen Browne to create story maps to help us retell the story and write about what different families may look like.

Another story we will focus on this half term is *Funny Bones* by Janet and Allen Ahlberg. The children will be discovering how their bodies work and what is inside them. This will link to their physical development where the children will learn how to keep their bodies strong and healthy. We will observe the effects of exercise on our bodies, discussing our heart, how fast it beats when exercising, how we breathe more heavily when we are really exercising hard.

We are really looking forward to getting to know your child and yourselves throughout the year. It is very important to us that your child is happy during their time in Reception and that we have strong links with parents. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak to us.

Kind Regards,

Miss Hayes and Miss Law

