

Welcome!

This half term we will be making friends and finding out what it means to be part of our Early Years unit.

As part of our topic, 'Marvellous me', we will be talking about our families and what makes us special. We will be creating self-portraits using different art media, finding out about the places where we live and even making simple maps of our localities.

We will be trying to improve our fine motor skills and help our muscles to become stronger by doing 'Finger Gym' with the wonderful resources in our classroom. It will be lots of fun!

We will be reading lots of new stories, and Reception children will take home their very own reading book and library book to share with our families! Nursery children will bring home a library book once we have all settled in.

Just as important as the fine motor skills are our gross motor skills. We will be doing lots of work this term to develop our control and coordination. We do this through PE lessons (Reception children) and access to our wonderful garden. If your child is in Reception, please check that your child has a PE bag in school. Can all parents check that their child has wellies to wear in the garden. We will also be working really hard on our bike skills.

**If you could please send in a family photo as soon as possible, we would like to create a display to encourage the children to talk about their home life.**

If your child is in Reception, they will be participating in the reception baseline assessment. The Reception baseline assessment (RBA) is a national assessment that is administered in all primary, infant and first schools in England to children in reception classes. The Reception baseline assessment will provide the basis for a way of measuring the progress primary schools make with their pupils.

The following document is available to download and will provide you with full details of the baseline. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.



[www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents)

Many thanks to those of you who have already donated toy fund. **Toy fund is a voluntary £2.50 donation** which we use to buy resources to enhance our topic and make fresh playdough. We are very grateful for any donations.

We look forward to working in partnership with all our parents and carers. Don't forget to make sure you have regular access to your seesaw app so you can see what we are up to in school.

Mrs Garside and Mrs Goodwin.