



Welcome
to
Reception



Croeso i Dosbarth Derbyn



**We are so
excited to see
you all again!**

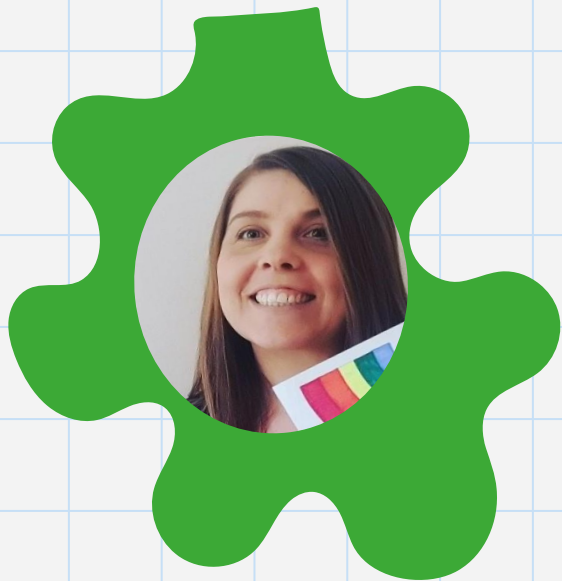


Meet Mrs Griffith

Hello there!

- I am starting my 27th year of teaching.
- I have worked in the Foundation Phase of our school for 10 years.
- I am originally from Anglesey and am a fluent Welsh speaker.
- I enjoy walking and have walked over 270 miles of the Wales Coast path so far.
- I love a good A-Z list and my husband and I are working our way through the alphabet for days out.
- I love travel and am learning Italian.
- I am looking forward to be working in Reception and Nursery again this year.

Our Team – support staff



Miss MacGregor

Most children will already be familiar with Mrs MacGregor from their time in Nursery.



Mrs Jones

Mrs Jones has worked in the Foundation Phase at Northop Hall for 8 years.

Our classroom



We have all the familiar areas including home corner, reading area, construction, workshop, small world and discovery as well as focus tables for Literacy and Numeracy tasks.

We have a carpet area and our interactive white board.



Reception class – dates and times

- **Week 1 – 1st & 2nd September** - training days – no pupils
- **Week 2 Monday 5th September** – No Reception pupils
- **Week 2 Tuesday 6th – Friday 9th September**
8:50 am until 1pm - Children attend school for half days only.
They will need a packed lunch as well as a healthy snack and a drink bottle. (labelled)
- **Week 3 12th September onwards**
8:50 - 9:00 until 3:05pm
Children to attend school for the full day.
They will need a lunchbox, drink and a snack.

Starting Reception – dates and times

- All children will start in the Reception class on Tuesday 6th September for half days only (staying for lunch).
- Reception pupils will enter through the usual Early Year class door at the front of the school between 8:50 and 9 am.
- Mrs Griffith and a member of staff will greet the children at the gate and there will also be a member of staff inside to welcome them into class.
- From September 12th Reception will attend for full days and finish at 3:05pm. They will come out of our back door onto the yard as they have done this year whilst in Nursery.





What happens in Reception?

Reception class is part of the Foundation Phase

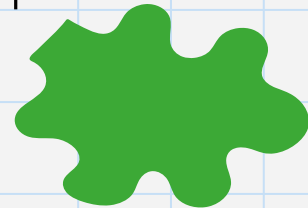
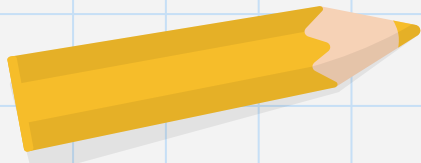
The Foundation Phase is a developmental curriculum for three- to seven-year-olds in Wales. It encourages children to be creative, imaginative and to have fun while making learning more effective. Your child will be given opportunities to explore the world around them and understand how things work by taking part in practical activities relevant to their developmental stage. They will be challenged through practical activities and develop their thinking with open-ended questions. Your child will be encouraged to explore concepts and share ideas for solving problems.

Taken from: How is my child doing in the Foundation Phase – a guide for parents and carers. 2019

What happens in Reception?

We are aware that although the majority of our Reception starters are familiar with our setting and the staff, our main priority in these first few weeks will be their happiness and wellbeing and settling into new routines.

As the name suggests in the Foundation Phase, we will spend quality time establishing routines and getting to know the children in order to build secure foundations in all areas of the curriculum. This will help us to identify your child's strengths, skills and abilities which in turn allows us to plan the next steps in their learning.



What happens in Reception?

- A typical day

- Short whole group sessions (Numeracy, Literacy, Phonics, Topic, PE, Forest school etc.)
- Focus group activities – small groups
- Lots of free play inside and outside!
- Playtime
- Snack time
- Lunchtime
- Stories and rhymes throughout and at the end of the day

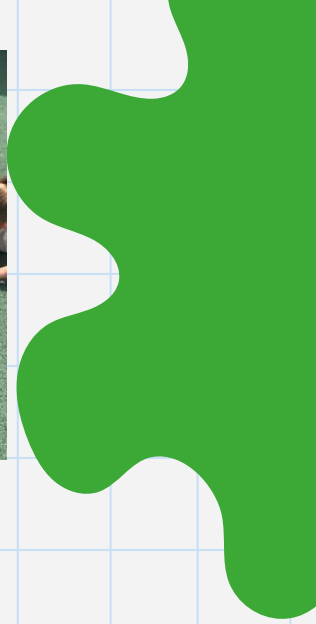
How can I support my child?

- Promote independence – getting changed independently, fastening zips, cutting up food etc.
- Toileting – pupils can wear jogging bottoms if this helps and Velcro shoes rather than laces in case of accidents. Children will be encouraged and supported from a distance to change themselves. However in some cases a phone call may need to be made to come and collect your child.
- Name recognition – e.g. recognising it in different formats such as capital letters on clothes labels or on lunch bag
- Numeracy – matching activities e.g. picture dominoes, SNAP card games, colour match games, counting out loud etc
- Playing games like 'I Spy' or rhyming games
- Sharing books and stories
- Singing songs and nursery rhymes

Further information will be sent out during the term with links to phonics, reading, maths games and relevant websites etc.

Squiggle While You Wiggle

In Nursery the children have followed the 'Squiggle while you wiggle' programme and we will be moving onto 'Squiggle me into a writer' in Reception.



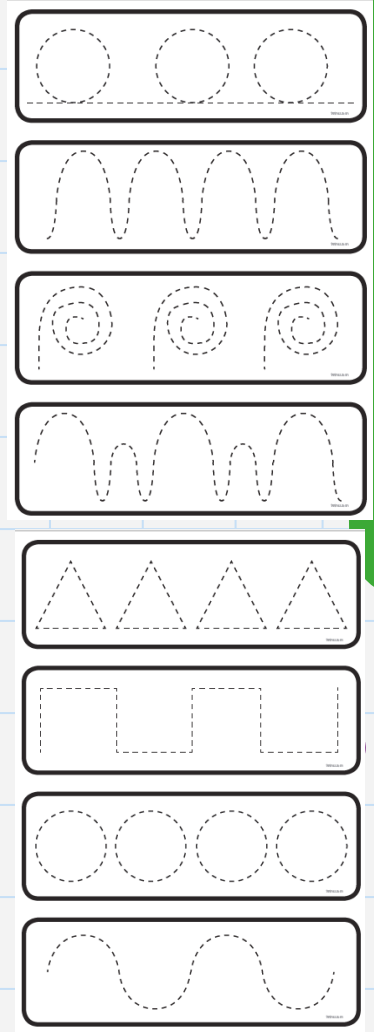
How can I support my child? (2)

Please do not feel that your child has to be able to write their name ahead of starting Reception.

In preparation there are several things you can do to strengthen their fine motor skills in preparation for mark making (writing).

They can practise different writing shapes e.g. circles to help with a, o, e, zig zags to practice w, v as well as humps and bumps for m, n, r.

For a number of ideas to strengthen your child's fingers and improve fine motor skills then I would suggest Googling 'finger gym' or 'pre-writing activities' for some simple and practical ideas.





What next?

- Once we are settled into Reception I will share more information about our PE days, our topics and how we will be teaching reading and phonics etc
- I am also keen to keep you involved in your child's learning as much as possible and will share any books we have been reading or direct you to any relevant websites or educational games we have used.
- Our class website will be updated regularly with photos and relevant information.

Parents as partners

Normally we would encourage parents into our classroom areas in the mornings and have always had an open-door policy. However, in current circumstances this is still not possible.

Please email / phone the school reception with any absences, general enquiries or messages. However, if you need to contact Mrs Griffith with any queries, concerns or comments about your child please email me at GriffithJ14@hwbcymru.net Please note that responses will only be during the week.

We have always valued our parental support from reading every night with your child . As the term progresses, we will be sharing ways to continue to support and share your child's learning both in school and at home.



Happy children learn

It's no surprise that children learn best when they are safe and happy. Our priority is always the wellbeing and safety of our children, enabling them to work and play to their full potential.

Thank you for your attention

We look forward to welcoming your child into Reception and working with you and your family this year.

Mrs Griffith & the Early Years team

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