

Welcome to Reception!

We are so excited to be welcoming you to our Robins class.

The teachers in your classroom are;



Mrs Hannah Hodgkinson (Mon-Weds)



and Miss Amy Parlane (Thurs-Fri).

We love working with you and your friends in the Early Years as we think it is the most fun and exciting place to be. We are always amazed by how much you grow and the incredible learning that you do. We love getting to know you and we plan our learning around things that you are interested in. We are going to have a fantastic time together.



Mrs Catherine Cox (Mon-Weds) is here to support your learning.
Mrs Gill Foy and Mrs Susan Brayfield work with us aswell.

She is the queen of crafting!

Our first Topic is **"Who am I?"** We will use this theme to explore our feelings, well-being, friendships and ways to keep our healthy. We will be using some well-known and loved books to help us, including 'The Colour Monster', 'The Little Red Hen', 'Harry and the Dinosaurs go to school' and the Elmer stories. As a part of our learning we will be talking about our families. **Please could you bring in a photo of your family by Monday 12th September to display in our home corner and for discussions? We would also love any photos of when your parents or grandparents were children so that we can talk about childhood for them and how life has changed.**

We start each day with our class registration, where we choose dinners and have a little catch up with you all. Then we have a Phonics session all together. Soon you will learn some of our favourite Phonics songs and rhymes! We learn important skills in Phonics which help us to recognise sounds and this helps us to learn to read and write.

We spend a lot of our time in our 'Challenge Areas', where you can collect coloured lollipop sticks for each area of learning by completing challenges. The grown-ups in your classroom come and join you to play sometimes, and other times you will play on your own or with your friends.

PE sessions may change throughout the year but currently we will have P.E. on a Wednesday afternoon and a Thursday morning. Please bring in your P.E. kit and trainers for those days, remembering to have your name in all your clothes.

We love **reading** at Cockerham School. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of sharing books together and talking about stories. We have two story sessions every day and it is always a brilliant time to ask questions and share ideas. You will start to bring books home during week 2. Initially these will be picture books to discuss in order to help to develop language and observational skills. We will then move onto phonetically decodable books that follow the phonemes that we are teaching in school. We try to read each book 3 times in order to develop fluency, "smooth reading" and confidence. You will all have a reading folder to bring home. **Adults write in your blue reading record book each time you practise reading at school or at home.** This is another helpful tool for regular communication.

Please bring in your own individual **water bottle** each day, but you don't need to bring a snack as we have fruit available in the classroom.

We have **worship** every day. This is led by Reverend Gary, curate Matt Guilder, our KICK sports coaches, staff from school or sometimes our worship team. This is a lovely time for us all to sing, pray, learn about our Christian values, local and global events and to share ideas and reflect. Sometimes worship is in the hall with the whole school or sometimes it is in our class groups. We sing a prayer at lunch time and always end the school day with our End of Day Prayer;

"Hands together, softly so, little eyes shut tight. Father just before we go, hear our prayers tonight. We are all your children here, this is what we pray. Keep us when the dark is near, and through every day. Amen."

Our first few weeks will include lots of getting to know each other time and learning about rules and routines. We will also be carrying out our **Reception Baseline Assessment**. The Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) is a statutory assessment. This provides a snapshot of where you are when you arrive at school. It will provide a starting point to measure the progress we make between reception and the end of primary school. These assessments will be carried out 1:1 through fun activities with the class teachers

Information on the assessment for parents can be found here

- www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment

The privacy notice for parents of Reception children is available here:

-  [Privacy notice – Pupil data](#)

Parents - If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be more than happy to help. You can email h.hodgkinson@cockerham.lancs.sch.uk and we will make every effort to respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you so much for sending the children to school looking so smart. They have been really proud of their uniforms, bags and drinks bottles. **Please could everyone add a keyring onto school bags? This helps the children to identify their bag as their own.**

Please could any remaining 'All About Me' booklets be sent into school by the end of the week. If the people collecting your child is different than those that collect and drop off normally or those stated in 'All About Me' books then please email or telephone to make school aware. Your child will not be handed to an adult unless we are informed.

We hope you all have had a fantastic summer holiday and are ready for the exciting times that lay ahead.

The Reception Class Team ☺