

Reception Welcome Letter

Welcome to Cams Lane Primary School! I do hope you have enjoyed your Summer. I understand that starting school will be a huge step for both children and parents/carers. I am really looking forward to getting to know each of the children and yourselves throughout this academic year. It is a real delight to be able to watch them grow and flourish into their own – both academically and socially.

In Reception class your child will work towards the Early Learning Goals (ELG). This covers areas of learning and is different to the National Curriculum which they will start in Year 1. Your child will learn through continuous provision (indoors and outdoors), as well as carpet space learning time.

Reading Books:

Your child will start on a wordless book. As your child begins the Little Wandle phonics programme, they will be assessed and moved up the book sets accordingly. We change reading books on a **Friday**. On this day, please send your child in with their reading book bag (reading book, pleasure book and reading record signed), so that we can change their books. An online eBook (Big Cat Collins Book) will also be assigned online. Login details will be provided on a separate sheet, and this will be the book that your child has read during the weekly guided reading sessions.

Decodable books – to be read with an adult

Pleasure books – to be read by an adult

eBook – to be read with an adult

Please read with your child as much as you can, this is to promote a love of reading and to support them to become engaged, confident readers as their phonics awareness and knowledge increases.

If you misplace or damage a reading book throughout the year, then you must pay £5 via Scopay to replace each lost or damaged book. Once the office receives the payment, a replacement will be issued.

PE:

PE is on a **Tuesday morning** and is delivered by an external PE coach. The children will cover various skills, sports and games throughout the year. Children will come into school that day wearing their PE kit. Please ensure all items are labelled. If your child has their ears pierced, please provide tape/plasters for your child to cover them up with or remove the piercings before the school day. This is for health and safety.

Water Bottles:

The children should have their own water bottles, which they bring to school. Please only send your child in with a normal sized plastic water bottle with a top that they can drink out of to minimise breakages and spillages. Please label their water bottle. Your child will have access to their water bottles during the day. These should be taken home each day, so that fresh water can be put in them. Should a child forget their water bottle, we do have access to cups. Water only! This is school policy. Any juice will be asked to be emptied down the sink.

School Bag:

Ideally, we would like your child to come to school with a Cams Lane Book bag. No toys/teddies are to be brought into school in bags. We no longer have lockers in Reception class and have moved to a coat/bag trolley. Therefore, we ask for children not to come in with

huge backpacks each day. You will be asked to bring spare clothes/underwear in for your child to cover any accidents they may have whilst in school. This can be brought in a named plastic bag.

Curriculum Maps:

Each half term, I will upload a curriculum map to the class webpage, which will inform you of the learning that will be taking place for that current half term. You can access them here: [Reception Class Page](#)

Phonics Meeting:

There will be **two** separate parent Phonics/Reading meetings this academic year.

The first will be on **Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 4:30pm.**

This meeting will provide information on Phase 2.

There will be a second meeting on **Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 4:30pm.** This meeting will provide information on Phase 3 and Phase 4.

Both meetings will last around half an hour. Unfortunately, no children will be able to attend these meetings.

Stay and Play sessions:

Stay and Play sessions are very popular in Reception, and we always have an amazing turn out! The sessions start at 9am and last an hour. We have a Stay and Play session each term, with the last date being the Graduation Ceremony.

- Monday 13th October 2025
- Monday 8th December 2025
- Monday 2nd February 2026

- Monday 23rd March 2026
- Monday 11th May 2026
- Monday 6th July 2026 (Graduation)

Unfortunately, for health and safety, we can only facilitate 1 adult per child, and no younger siblings can attend stay and play sessions. For the Graduation ceremony, however, 2 tickets will be allocated per child.

Maths Workshop:

On **Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 2:00pm**, there will be an EYFS maths workshop. There will be different activities set out for your child to show you what resources we use to help us in our maths. Prior, parents have asked for us to demonstrate the methods and strategies we use in each year group, because most of the time it is different from when we as adults went to school. This will be 1 adult per child and no younger siblings please.

Homework:

When we set homework, it will be done via Tapestry or in a red homework book. This might be around phonics, literacy, maths or understanding the world etc. More information will be provided as the children come to this milestone.

Dates for your diary:

- Phonics/Reading meeting – Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 4:30pm AND Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 4:30pm.
- Stay and Play sessions 9:00am-10:00am: Monday 13th October 2025, Monday 8th December 2025, Monday 2nd February 2026, Monday 23rd March 2026 and Monday 11th May 2026

- Graduation: Monday 6th July 2026 (Ceremony plus Stay and Play session – 9:00am-11:00am)
- Maths workshop – Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 2:00pm

Tapestry:

In Reception, we mainly use Tapestry to:

- Upload fortnightly newsletters
- Upload (group) photographs of daily provision/lessons
- Any key messages/information

You can contact me through Tapestry by creating an observation for your child. You will be able to like and comment on Tapestry posts as they are uploaded.

Communication in Reception:

We use the class page on the school website to share work and activities the children have taken part in.

We have an open-door policy at Cams Lane. If you have a question to ask, then please feel free to catch me in the morning, or at the end of the day. If this is not convenient, you can email the school office, who will forward it on to me.

Here's to the Reception Class of 2026 and to all the memories we are going to make!

Miss Leigh