



# COLNEY HEATH SCHOOL & NURSERY

High Street, Colney Heath, St. Albans, Herts. AL4 0NP

Telephone: 01727 823898

Fax: 01727 827085

E-mail: [admin@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.colneyheath.herts.sch.uk](http://www.colneyheath.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. P. Rose

Reception newsletter  
**Autumn Term 2011**

Dear Parents and Children,

A very warm welcome to the start of the Autumn term which we hope will be a very enjoyable one. If any questions or matters arise from this newsletter please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Reception team.

## The Curriculum

In reception we run a topic based day. This half-term term our topic is 'All creatures Great and Small'. Within our topic the children will be covering the six areas of learning within the Foundation Stage Curriculum (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy, Problem solving Reasoning and Numeracy, Creative Development, Knowledge and Understanding of the World and Physical Development). During the topic the children will have lots of opportunities to learn through both child initiated activities and adult led activities.

On Monday afternoons Mrs. Perryman will be teaching the class as Mrs Steadman and Mrs Snowball are released for non-contact time.

## PE

The children will have one or two PE sessions a week. This will be on a Monday and Wednesday. This half-term we will be doing Music and Movement. Can you please ensure your child comes to school on this days with clothes they can easily manage themselves (i.e. no shirts). Please also ensure that all clothes (even socks!) are named.

## Show & Tell

Monday is our show and tell session. This is an opportunity for the children to bring in something of interest to talk about to the class (no toys please). However can you please ensure this can fit into their book bag, is not breakable or extremely valuable.

## Magic Moments

Each week a child will be chosen to share 'magic moments' with the rest of the class. The child will have the opportunity to bring in pictures, special objects, mementoes etc throughout the week and then share them with the class on a Friday. Your child will bring a letter home with more detail about what is required when it is their magic moment turn.



### Water bottles

We encourage all the children to drink plenty of water during the day. Children are allowed to bring in a water bottle which should be taken home daily to be re-filled. All water bottles should be named. We do also have jugs of water which the children can access throughout the day.

### Reading

Reading books are changed once a week and we encourage all the children to read every day. Please write a short comment in the school link book letting us know how your child read.

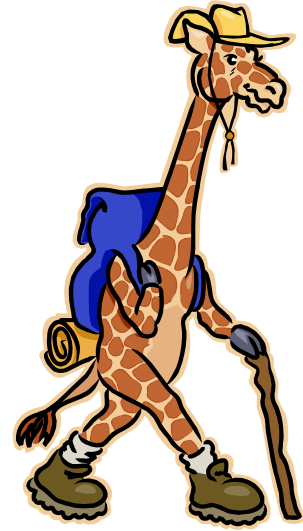
Library books will be changed on a Thursday.

### Pick up

If your child is being picked up by anyone different please can you write this in a note and pass it to a member of the Reception Team in the morning.

### Geoffrey

As you may have already heard, Geoffrey (the giraffe) is our class mascot who will choose a child to go home with on a Friday. If your child is lucky enough to get Geoffrey please look after him and return him safely on the following Monday!!!!



### Building Blocks

Once every half term we hold a building blocks session. This is where we invite you in to the classroom to observe and partake in activities based around one of the six curriculum areas of learning. The dates for building block sessions are:

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September (9.15 - 10.15): Phonic focus

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November (1.30 - 2.30): Numeracy focus

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January (9.15 - 10.15): Literacy, Reading & Writing focus

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March (1.30 - 2.30): Creative focus

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May (9.15 - 10.15): Knowledge & Understanding focus

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June (1.30 - 2.30): Physical development focus

When attending morning Building Block sessions please drop your child off as normal and then go to the main school reception to sign in. You will be met by a member of the reception team. For afternoon sessions please go straight to the main school reception. If you are unable to find child care for younger children, they are welcome to join us.

### Parent Helpers

If you are available to help on a regular basis in reception please speak to either Mrs Snowball or Mrs Steadman. In particular we would welcome parent helpers for reading and book changing.

Thank you

**Mrs Snowball and Mrs Steadman**