



Dear Parents,

## Welcome to Red class!

My name is **Kirsty Smith** and I will be your child's teacher for the upcoming school year! **Faith Hedicker** will be your child's Learning Support Assistant, she is a highly skilled Early Years Practitioner and she and I work very much as a team. We are both very excited to meet all of your little ones and we are looking forward to guiding them through their first year at school.

Our first curriculum theme in September will be '**All About Me**' – lots of activities aimed at supporting the children to get to know each other and make new friends; to play and cooperate together; and to settle into the routines of their new school. As part of this topic, we would like to create a photo board and would be grateful if over the summer you could find or take a **photo** of your child with their immediate family (pets included!) and bring this in for us to put on display. The children love to see their photos: it serves as a familiar reminder of home for those who are feeling a little insecure and also provides a great talking point when making new friends and developing self-confidence.

A few reminders if I may... we are out in all weathers so please could we have a named pair of **wellies** to keep in school. Please bring these on the first day of term. And a **waterproof coat** in school every day please. Please remember to name everything!! The children have a lot of belongings (jumpers, book bags, and so on) and it all looks exactly the same as their friends' - it is impossible for us to know what belongs to who without having a name label to refer to! Thank you 😊 Please could we also have a named **water bottle** in school every day. We suggest these are brought in each Monday morning and we send them home on Friday afternoons to be washed over the weekend – we refill them during the week for the children.

For me, it is a privilege to teach Reception children – the progress they make in their first year at school is huge and it's so rewarding to be a part of that. But I also understand for some of you this may be a daunting time and I want to say please do not hide your worries or questions – do come and share them with me as I will do my best to support you.

Lastly, if you have any spare time please consider volunteering in class. We need help each week to change reading books, listen to children read, get resources ready and help with activities in class. If you can offer any regular time, please let me know. Many thanks.

Best wishes,

Mrs Smith

Miss Hedicker