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Alton Infant School

Sowing the seeds of learning



Headteacher: Mrs Stacey Serdet
2026

Wednesday 9th September

Dear Reception Families,

A very warm welcome to you and your children as they begin their Reception journey with us!

It has been such a pleasure watching your children settle during their transition into school and we are delighted with how well they have settled into school life. They are becoming familiar with the routines of the day, getting to know their teachers and new friends, and growing in confidence as they explore their new surroundings.

Starting school is a very big milestone, and we know that every child responds differently. Some children arrive confidently and are ready to get started, while others may need a little more time and reassurance. Please be assured that we are getting to know each child as an individual and supporting them as they develop their independence, confidence and sense of belonging.

Already, we have seen lots of lovely examples of children helping one another, sharing, making friends, trying new things and becoming increasingly independent. We are very proud of them!

A few helpful reminders

As we settle into our routines, there are a few things that will help your child have a happy and successful day:

- **Please label everything** that comes into school, including coats, jumpers, cardigans, water bottles and PE kits. This makes it much easier for us to return lost items to their owners!
- **Encourage independence at home.** Practicing putting on coats, fastening shoes, using the toilet independently, opening lunch boxes and tidying belongings will really help your child in school.
- **Reading together makes a huge difference.** Sharing stories, talking about pictures and encouraging your child to retell a story are wonderful ways to develop their language and love of books.
- **Talk about their day.** Rather than asking only, "What did you do today?", try making a comment about your day, and they are more likely to respond with what they did in their day.
- **Please let us know if something is worrying your child.** Sometimes a small conversation between home and school can make a big difference.
- **PE –** We like to encourage independence, so please send in a PE kit and we will help them change for PE on their PE day.

Most importantly, please remember that 'starting school is a journey, not a race'. We are not expecting children to have everything mastered straight away. Our priority is that they feel safe, happy, valued and excited to come to school each day. The learning and independence will develop from there.

We are looking forward to working closely with you over the coming year. A strong partnership between home and school makes such a positive difference to children, so please do come and speak to us if you have any questions, concerns or simply something you would like to share.

Thank you for trusting us with such an important part of your child's journey. We feel very lucky to be getting to know your wonderful children and are excited about all that the year ahead will bring.

With very best wishes,

Stacey Serdet
Headteacher