

Reception Parent Information Letter

Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception. We are looking forward to a fun-filled few weeks where your child will continue to grow, explore, and develop through a wide range of carefully planned activities and experiences. Please find below an overview of what we will be work on this half-term in each area of the Early Years Curriculum alongside information on how you can help to support your child's learning at home.

Miss Lundy and Ms Hanton



Attendance

It is important that your child is in school every day by 8:55am. School ends at 3:15pm, please make sure that you are at school ready to collect your child on time.

PE

Your child has PE on Friday they must come into school wearing PE kit to take part in the sessions.

Reading

We have set up all pupils with a Monster Phonics e-book login, details have been placed in your child's reading diary. Please make sure that you read at least once a week with your child to support their progress in reading and phonics and make a comment in their diary to indicate this.

Trips

This half term we will be visiting local landmarks. Dates and cost will be sent via the school app nearer the time.

Areas of Learning

The focus this half term will be:

Literacy

In Spring 1 the children will be exploring the story Juniper Jupiter by Lizzy Stewart. We will be focusing on retelling stories, Superheroes and writing sentences in this topic. We will also be exploring how to write a letter. In spring 2, the children will be exploring the text Little Red by Bethan Woolvin. We will be focusing on Traditional Tales and writing instructions in this topic.



Communication and Language

This term, the children will take part in discussions in small groups, as a class, and one-to-one, sharing their ideas using newly introduced vocabulary. They will begin to explain their thinking and talk about why things might happen, drawing on language from stories, non-fiction texts, rhymes, and poems. Children will also be encouraged to express their ideas and feelings about their own experiences using full sentences. With modelling and support from their teacher, they will practise using past, present, and future tense as well as simple conjunctions.

Maths

This term, the children will continue to develop their subitising and counting skills and explore the composition of numbers within and beyond 5. They will begin to identify when two sets are equal or unequal and connect two equal groups to doubles. They will begin to connect quantities to numerals.

Ideas to Support Learning at Home

- Read books every day and ask questions about the characters and setting. Encourage your child to re-tell the story in their own words, using the illustrations for support.
- Practise recognising and writing their name with a capital letter at the beginning.
- Support phonics learning by encouraging your child to segment and blend unfamiliar words e.g. th-a-t "that"
- Play "I Spy" using beginning sounds.
- Let them "write" with purpose: notes, cards, shopping lists. Ask them to read what they have written.

- Encourage storytelling—ask your child to retell a story or describe a picture.
- Introduce new vocabulary during daily routines (e.g., while cooking or shopping).
- Ask open-ended questions like "What do you think will happen next?"
- Play "What's in the bag?" games with household objects to build vocabulary.
- Read daily and talk about the beginning, middle, and end of stories.

- Place out objects to 5 and then 10, can your child recognise how many without counting?
- Play board games that involve counting or number recognition.
- Look for numbers in the environment (e.g., door numbers, signs).
- Talk about shapes around the house—"That plate is a circle!"
- Use language like more, fewer, heavier, taller, shorter in play.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
In Spring term, we will be exploring the topic ‘All are Welcome’ where we will focus on the concepts of respectful relationships, families, welcoming others, getting along, diversity and uniqueness.	This term, the children will continue to explore movement and dance. They will be introduced to tennis, developing key fundamental skills including target throwing, ball tracking, catching, and peripheral vision.	This term, we will continue to explore the changing seasons, with a focus on Winter and Spring. The children will also be introduced to maps and will begin learning about the local area in which we live.	This term, we will be exploring the work of artists Jenny Berry and Vincent van Gogh. The children will experiment with a variety of materials to create collage artwork and will develop their skills in still-life drawing
Ideas to Support Learning at Home			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about your child’s day and ask how they felt at different moments.• Support independence by encouraging them to dress themselves and manage their belongings.• Practise taking turns and sharing during games at home.• Use storybooks to talk about emotions and problem-solving.• Help them understand routines and transitions (e.g., bedtime, morning routines).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practise using a knife and fork at mealtimes.• Provide activities that strengthen hand muscles—playdough, tweezers, threading, building block (e.g. lego)• Encourage your child to write, draw, or colour daily.• Take them to the park to run, climb, jump, and balance.• Practise zipping up coats and putting on shoes independently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go on walks around your local area or around school. Look at and discuss the buildings and shops that you see.• Share family traditions, photos, and stories.• Explore “how” and “why” questions: “What is the weather like? What do you need to wear?”• Visit local parks, farms, or museums to talk about the world around us.• Encourage curiosity—let them help with cooking or planting seeds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a range of materials at home for drawing, painting, and building.• Encourage singing songs from school or inventing their own.• Have pretend play sessions with dolls, toy animals, or role-play clothes.• Create simple instruments from household items and explore sounds.• Display their creative work and talk to them about what they made.