

Reception Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1 (2026)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the Christmas break, we hope that you and your families all have a restful and relaxing holiday. With the New Year comes new exciting learning opportunities for the children, many of which are detailed in this newsletter.

As always, we look forward to receiving the children's holiday homework projects, which will be celebrated and shared upon their return to school.

Please feel free to speak to us about your child's progress or any concerns you may have, regarding any element of their learning and development.

Best wishes,

The Reception Team

Dates for your diary

Key dates including class assemblies, enrichment days / events and coffee mornings can be found on our school website calendar or on our parent dates letter sent out at the beginning of every half term.

PE

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on their timetabled PE days. It is advised that your child keeps their kit in school throughout the week in case of any timetable changes. Children must have a full PE kit (a white t-shirt, black shorts / jogging bottoms, and plimsolls) to ensure personal hygiene and safety.

PE Days:

- Cherry Class -Monday
- Apple Class - Tuesday

Homework

Homework will be given out every Thursday and is to be returned the following Monday. Please support your child to complete the activities set but also allow them the opportunity to record this independently to practise their letter and number formation.

Parent Planners will also be given out on a Friday. Look out for any key messages and to see what we will be learning the following week.

Children will receive two reading books, which will be changed every week. Please remember to leave a comment in the Home School Diary and make sure you read each day with your child.

Our topic this half term is 'Let's Work' People Who Help Us



Communication and Language

We will be learning to:

- Use new vocabulary throughout the day.
- Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
- Articulate our ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.
- Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen.



Literacy

We will be learning to:

- Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words.
- Read books to build up our confidence in word reading, our fluency, our understanding and our enjoyment.



Mathematics

We will be learning to:

- Subitise - look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting.
- Talk about night and day and order key events in our daily routines.
- Do quick recall of number bonds (numbers 0–5).
- Continue, copy and create repeating patterns.
- Compare length, weight and capacity.



Physical Development

We will be learning to:

- Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.
- Develop our small motor skills so that we can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently, such as pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.
- Use our core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.



Understanding the World

We will be learning to:

- Name and describe people who are familiar to us.
- Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.



Expressive Art and Design

We will be learning to:

- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express our ideas and feelings.
- Return to and build on our previous learning, refining ideas and developing our ability to represent them.
- Develop storylines in our pretend play.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be learning to:

- See ourselves as valuable individuals.
- Build constructive and respectful relationships.
- Express our feelings and consider the feelings of others.
- Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.