



# Reception Newsletter

## Autumn 1—2024/2025



### Notices and Reminders

It has been wonderful to welcome all of our new starters to Reception this week and to see them start the year in such a positive way.

Our PE day for this year is **Tuesday**.

If you do have any questions or concerns, however small, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day or email the office to arrange a meeting.

### Communication and Language

The communication and language focus this half term is all around settling into school and how the children can use their words to explain their feelings and make friends. The children will also be working on their listening skills by playing lots of games inside and outside to encourage them to follow simple instructions.



### Key dates

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September - Y1 meet the teachers meeting (2:30pm in the hall)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Y2 meet the teachers meeting (2:30pm in the hall)

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September – PTA AGM/autumn meeting (7pm)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September – PTA autumn school disco (4:30pm to 6:30pm)

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October – YR meet the teachers meeting (2:30pm in the hall)

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October – happy bag collections

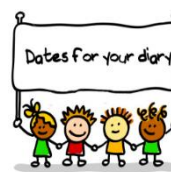
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – individual and sibling photographs

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – parents' evening (3:30pm to 6:30pm)

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – parents' evening (3:30pm to 6:30pm)

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – YES day

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – end of half term (3:15pm collection)



### Physical Development

The children will focus on gross and fine motor skills to help them develop their dexterity, strength and coordination. They will practise pre-writing skills, including patterns, holding a pencil and making marks – on a small and large scale.

In P.E. the focus is finding a space and freezing. The children are also learning to change direction when they come to an obstacle.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term is all about settling into the school environment with a focus on independence and the classroom rules.

The theme is 'Being Me in My World' which covers how it feels to belong and be part of a group along with a focus on their feelings and emotions.



## Literacy

'Essential Letters and Sounds' (ELS) is used to develop our children's early reading and writing skills. The children learn 4 sounds each week; we are currently working within Phase 2. They are also learning 'Harder to Read and Spell Words' (HRWs) which cannot be sounded out.



To enhance and embed a love of stories, the children will spend time exploring, learning and asking questions about a story. The key texts will be Elmer, Mixed and The Colour Monster.

## Mathematics

Maths learning this term will include the following areas:

*Match, sort and compare:* the children will find and group objects which match and investigate different ways of grouping them.

*Measure and pattern:* The children will compare the size, mass and capacity of objects to say which is greater or smaller.

*It's me, 1,2,3:* The children will explore numbers 1-3, recognising sets and dots of these numbers and different ways of making 1,2 and 3.

Recognising circles and triangles.



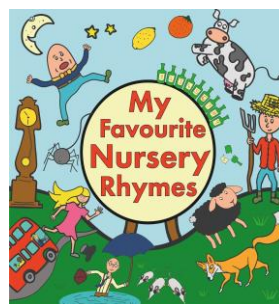
## Understanding the World

The children will be thinking about how they have changed as they have grown, talking about what they can do now compared to what they could do in the past. They will be thinking about their families and how old they are compared to other family members.

The children will also be observing the changes that take place in autumn. They will have the opportunity to go outside and look for signs of autumn. They will think about how the change in weather affects animals and learning about animals that hibernate.

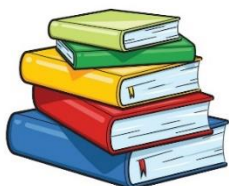
## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be listening to various pieces of music and talking about why they like or dislike them. They will sing and perform familiar nursery rhymes identifying the pulse and add their own sounds using their body or instruments.



## Homework

New decodable reading books will be handed out in week 4 (as per our Essential Letters and Sounds phonics scheme's requirements) to allow us to assess the children's current phonics levels and match these to an appropriate text. Once these have been handed out, please make sure your child reads their decodable book at least four times a week at home with an adult.



## Suggested books for reading

