



Reception Newsletter

Autumn 1—2023/2024



Notices and reminders

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

Our PE day for this half-term 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.

Key dates

Autumn 1

Thursday 5th October 2023—school census day (Fun Fair lunch menu)

Monday 9th October 2023—harvest assembly
Tuesday 17th October 2023—parents' evening (3:30pm-6:30pm)

Thursday 19th October 2023—parents' evening (3:30pm-6:30pm)

Friday 20th October 2023—end of half term

Autumn 2

Monday 30th October 2023—start of half term

Monday 30th October 2023—individual photographs (Ladybirds, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Wednesday 1st November 2023—individual photographs (Butterflies)

Tuesday 14th November 2023—flu immunisations (unless opted out)

Thursday 7th December 2023—Little Red Riding Hood pantomime

Friday 15th December 2023—end of term (1:10pm collection)

Communication and Language

Our communication and language focus is all around settling into school and how we can use our words to explain our feelings and make friends.

We are also working on our listening skills by playing lots of games inside and outside and encouraging us to follow simple instructions.



Physical Development

We will focus on developing gross and fine motor skills to help the children develop their dexterity, strength and coordination. We will practice pre-writing skills, including patterns, holding a pencil and making marks on a small and large scale.

In P.E. our focus is finding a space and freezing. We are also learning to change direction when we 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

In phonics, we use 'Essential Letters and Sounds' (ELS) to develop our children's early reading and writing skills. The children learn four sounds each week. They will also learn 'Harder to Read and Spell Words' (HRWs) which cannot be sounded out.



In writing, to enhance and embed a love of stories we use 'Talk for Writing'. This involves exploring, learning and asking questions about a story. We will be using Elmer and Pumpkin Soup as our key texts.

Mathematics



The children will start by finding and grouping objects which match and investigate different ways of grouping them.

We will then move on to comparing the size, mass and capacity of objects to say which is greater or smaller. The children will notice patterns that repeat and continue a pattern with objects, their bodies or phrases.

Next, we will explore numbers 1-3, recognising sets and dots of these numbers and different ways of making 1, 2 and 3.

Finally, we will recognise circles and triangles.



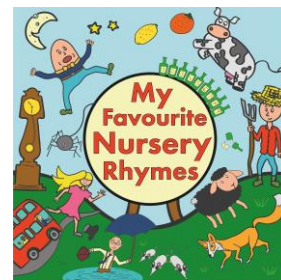
Understanding the World

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 in our outdoor learning environment. They will then think about how the change in weather affects animals and learn about animals that hibernate.

Expressive Arts and Design

In music 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

Thank you for all of your support with helping your child to read at home. Please make sure that they read their decodable book at least four times a week. The decodable book and sharing book need to be brought back into school every Friday.



Suggested books for reading

