



Spring Term Overview Reception 2026

Happy New Year and welcome back! This term we have some fantastic topics and learning which we are excited to share with the children. Our main topics this term are the "World Around Us" and "In the Garden".

Religious Education

Our Spring Term 1 unit 'Galilee to Jerusalem' includes the following:

- hearing about the Wise Men coming to visit Jesus.
- thinking about how Jesus is God's Son and came for everyone.
- thinking about how Jesus can show God's love and welcome everyone.
- thinking about how Jesus takes care of everyone.
- hearing bible stories including Jesus blessing the little children and the story of Jesus Feeding the five thousand.
- learning the Glory Be prayer as a response to the coming of Jesus.

Our Spring Term 2 unit 'Desert to Garden' includes the following:

- to understand that Lent is a time to care for others.
- to hear and understand the key events of Holy Week.
- to recognise simple signs of Lent and Easter.
- to know that Easter is a celebration that Jesus is still with us.
- to learn how various cultures celebrate Lent and Easter in different ways.



Phonics and Literacy

Focus will be on:

- sequencing and retelling familiar stories using images and objects.
- making simple predictions based on the events of a story so far.
- using language from a story within role play and discussions.
- learning Phase 3 sounds (A digraph is two letters that make one sound and a trigraph is three letters that make one sound) as per Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Phonics Scheme.
- blending and reading VC and CVC words using sounds taught.
- reading books that match our phonics knowledge and beginning to read a variety of different books including fiction and non-fiction.
- being able to confidently discuss the content of our reading books and start to read with some fluency and prosody.

- writing CVC words, simple captions and sentences using our phonics knowledge both adult led and independently.
- continuing to read books for pleasure.

Communication and Language

Focus will be on:

- simple back and forth conversations paying attention to peer/adults responding appropriately.
- attentive listening skills and acting on instructions.
- following instructions involving one or two key parts.
- asking and answering how and why questions.
- offering small explanations that demonstrate understanding.
- using recently modelled language independently across everyday contexts.
- asking questions in a variety of contexts.
- using speech to organise simple activities, overcome problems and conflicts and provide little explanations. e.g. "You go first and I'll go next."
- using the 'Story-Teller Stool' to make up our own stories.
- weekly "Show and Tell" Sessions.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

Focus will be on:

- continuing to build relationships with other children and adults.
- holding back and forth conversations listening to peers' ideas and responding appropriately.
- showing empathy in simple way, i.e. finding an adult for a child who is hurt.
- understanding of others perspectives in discussion.
- turn taking with a little support from adults.
- linking events (in books and real life) with feelings and discuss them, e.g. "She is angry that he snatched the toy."
- beginning to solve small conflicts through speaking to each other. e.g. "Stop that, I don't like it" or "Can I have a turn when you are finished?"
- waiting with increased patience, when necessary.
- dressing and undressing for PE independently.



- discussing healthy food choices.
- beginning to understand consequences of our behaviour.
- beginning to persevere when something is challenging.
- working on short activities independently.

Expressive, Arts and Design

Focus will be on:

- adding more detail to our drawings, painting and models and discuss the features we have included.
- choosing materials to achieve desired goal.
- explaining how created something to their peers talking about how and why they have chosen specific materials for a purpose.
- discussing change and patterns when listening to music.
- creating own beats with musical instruments and become more confident.
- exploring how can change a song/rhyme.
- creating more complex narratives in their pretend play, building on contributions of peers.
- organising themselves for collaborative and creative opportunities, e.g. role play, art work, performance.



Understanding the World

Focus will be on:

- discussing images of past and make comparisons.
- having some basic knowledge of community celebrations including Chinese New Year.
- giving children opportunities to see the wider world and make comparisons to our own environment.
- investigating changes in seasons from Autumn to Winter and Winter to Spring.
- observing and experimenting with natural processes such as ice melting.
- finding out more about different animals from around the world.
- planting and growing vegetables and flowers and observing changes.
- observations of minibeasts and other living things within our topic and Forest School sessions with Miss Hughes.

Other information

- PE will continue to be on **Fridays** with Coach Dave. Children will require their indoor PE kits this term. Long hair should be tied up and no earrings or jewellery in school.
- Children need their coats in school every day particularly as we continue within the colder months. Please ensure that they are waterproof and have a hood.
- Reading folders need to be brought to school every day in the children's book bags. **Please ensure that you read with your child at home and record in the reading diary.**
- Reading for pleasure books/library books will be changed on a **Wednesday**.
- Dictation Books will be updated on a **Friday**. More information about these books to be sent out next week.
- We would like to introduce Weekly "Show and Tell" sessions to promote our Communication and Language skills. Children may bring something to school on their allocated date. We would ask that the items that are sent in are objects of interest other than a favourite toy, something that has some meaning for your child to speak about. Also, as it is "Show and Tell" they don't necessarily need to bring in something to show it can be something special they want to talk about such as a visit they've made or someone who has visited them or something they are planning to do that they are looking forward to. If preferred you can share a picture on Tapestry for your child to talk about.



Each week a different house team will be given the opportunity to bring something in/present. Please see the following dates for the next half term:

St Andrew - Friday 16th January

St David - Friday 23rd January

St George - Friday 30th January

St Patrick - Friday 6th February

Important Dates:

- **Pre-School 30th Year Celebration Event** - Friday 23rd January 6.30-8.30pm
- **School Mass at St Vincent's Church** - Sunday 25th January at 11am
- **Children's Mental Health Week** - 9th - 13th February
- **Safer Internet Day** - Tuesday 10th February
- **Forest Schools** - Tuesday 10th February
- **Stay and Learn Session (Maths Focus)**- Friday 6th February
- **Break up Half Term** - Thursday 12th February
- **INSET Day** - No school for children - Friday 13th February
- **Whole School Mass at School** - Tuesday 3rd March
- **World Book Day** - Thursday 5th March
- **Stay and Learn Session**- Early Learning Goal Focus - Tuesday 17th March
- **Parents Evening**- Tuesday 24th March
- **Break up Easter** - Thursday 2nd April

Thank you for all your continued support

Miss Quinn and Miss Fairhurst