



Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn term 1 2026

Please find information listed about the curriculum which will be taught throughout this half term.

Subject	Topic this half term	Additional notes
Literacy (Reading, Writing, phonics)	Phonics We are really excited to be starting our new phonics programme 'Read, Write, Inc' (RWI). In Reception we will be working on new sounds as a whole class, and will move into smaller more targeted groups in a few weeks. Your child will bring home a sounds book to support their practice of new sounds taught. Reading Once the class is split into groups each child will bring home a book per week as well as an online book. We will be holding a session to go through this in more detail in the coming weeks. All children also get a weekly library book. This is a book they choose for you to share with them at your leisure. Writing Writing in Reception, as well as being part of our continuous provision, is taught as part of the Read Write Inc programme and will use phonics sounds taught in our phonics lessons.	Reading Reading is so important throughout school and we ask you to read you're your child each night, even if it is just 5 minutes. Please make a note in their reading record so that we know when they have read. <i>Please can you ensure reading books are in school bags every day as children may be called to read on any day.</i> Reading books are changed on a Friday. Library books are changed on a Wednesday. Reading workshop You are invited into school on Thursday 10th September from 3.35pm to find out how your child starts their journey to learn to read. We hope you can come along!
Maths	In Reception we use the NCETM maths programme and this is supported by Mastering Number.	Maths is all around us! Count your steps, count the number of red cars you see, spot numerals as you are driving, find shapes you walk. Math maths fun!
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	PSED underpins all aspects of learning in Reception. Children will learn things such as to manage feelings and emotions, become confident and resilient in managing their own needs and play cooperatively with others. This half term our focus PHSE focus is – 'Me and my relationships'. We will be discussing our emotions and the feelings of others.	Please support this at home by encouraging your child to try to put on their own coat, shoes, etc. Let them know it's Ok to try and fail!
Communication & Language	Communication & Language is a key part of reception learning and is covered across all areas. From listening to others in	Ask your child about their day – 'What was your favourite part of the day?' is a great



	conversation and sharing ideas, remembering and talking about vocabulary in stories shared, as well as expressing feelings in sentences.	way to start a back and forth conversation.
Physical Development	Physical development is covered in all areas in Reception, from climbing and running outside to support gross motor skills, to cutting skills and fine motor activities such as threading and colouring. In PE, we will be working on Fundamentals skills and Dance . In fundamentals we will be learning about how to balance, run, jump, hop and change direction, as well as working cooperatively. In dance we will learn about how to use space and think creatively.	PE days are Thursdays and Fridays . Please send your child in their PE uniform on those days. Pumps should be left in school for indoor activities.
Understanding the World	This half term our focus is ' All about me '. We will be looking at chronology and bodies. Understanding the World supports children in making sense of their physical surroundings, communities, and the natural environment, and is a daily part of Reception learning.	Please could you ensure that the children always keep a pair of wellies in school as we often go outside whatever the weather to discover the great outdoors.
Expressive Arts & Design	Our topic this half term will focus on developing the skills of Drawing & mark making . We will be using different tools to mark make and look at how to draw a self-portrait. Our music topic is ' My Musical Classroom ' and children will learn to recognize simple classroom percussion instruments and compare their sounds.	
RE	Our focus this half term is ' I am Special ' as well as ' Harvest '.	

Other Useful Information

Equipment

Just a reminder about equipment. Children may bring to school:

- A small book bag – no keyrings please as it makes them difficult to store.
- A small, named bottle of plain water **every day please**.
- A weather appropriate coat.
- Spare underwear and trousers/skirt in case they have an accident.

Please label all items clearly with your child's name, especially cardigans and jumpers!

A note for children and parents

Welcome to St Andrews! Mrs Barrett & I are so excited to start your child's school journey with them. We want all the children to feel safe, happy and respected so please do not hesitate to get in touch or have a chat at the end of the day if there is anything we can help you with.

Kind regards



Mrs Tanner

St. Andrew's
CE Primary School