



Autumn term in Reception

Skills and learning overview



Reading & Writing

We will be starting phonics once all the children have settled into their new environment. We start by learning single sounds (phonemes), for example 's' 'a' 'p'. We then start to blend these single sounds in to CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words such as s-a-t or d-o-g. Once we have started learning our sounds, your child will come home with a phonics booklet, which includes all of the sounds we will be learning. Every time we learn a new sound in school, we will upload this to Tapestry so you can continue to practise at home.

We will start with writing our name, forming the letters matching the sounds we learn and developing the skill of blending these sounds to write full words!

We will practise holding our pencil correctly too.

Physical Development

The children will have access to our large outdoor area. They have large construction materials, a climbing frame and a space to run freely too. We have bikes, trikes and scooters for all Reception children to use. Physical development also encompasses small movements, such as holding mark making tools using a comfortable grip, using cutlery at lunch times, threading and using tweezers to pick up and place small objects and focusing on finding a dominant hand. We will be developing these skills in a variety of ways.

We will also enjoy 'Wake up Shake up' activities, cosmic yoga and dough disco (to develop hand muscles). Once the children have settled into their new routine, we will begin participating in weekly PE sessions where they will focus on moving in different ways (more information to follow). The children will also be encouraged to become more independent with their personal needs including putting on their own coat.

Maths

During the first few weeks, we focus on getting to know the children and gain an understanding of their knowledge of numbers. We will provide a range of resources and activities in the environment for the children to engage with freely.

Then, we begin our group learning. Each of our maths sessions are active, the children are using all of our fantastic resources to aid their learning. Our autumn term maths topics are:

Just like me!

- Matching objects that are the same
- Sorting objects by colour, size, shape etc.
- Comparing amounts
- Comparing size, mass and capacity
- Making simple patterns

It's me, 1, 2, 3!

- Representing the numbers 1, 2 and 3
- Comparing the numbers 1, 2 and 3
- Circles and triangles
- Spatial awareness

Light and dark

- Focus on number 4 and 5 including shapes with 4 sides
- Finding one more and one less
- Night and Day (sequencing time)

Communication & Language

- Engaging in story times and story discussions
- Learning and joining in with rhymes and songs
- Learning new vocabulary and beginning to use it themselves
- Begin to understand why listening carefully is important
- Develop social phrases
- Start new conversations with friends or grown ups
- Understand and follow instructions
- Answer 'why' questions
- Ask questions to find out more

Our enquiry question for the first half term will be 'I wonder what changes?' The children will be exploring the changes we experience throughout autumn as well as focusing on how they have changed from baby to now. We will be engaging in lots of activities to get to know each other better and will be immersed in texts that help us to learn about what makes us special. Later in the term we will explore the question 'I wonder how we celebrate?' where the children will have the opportunity to share their own personal news and celebrations

Expressive Arts & Design

- Children will be taking part in role play in our home corner, small world and construction areas
- Developing their story telling skills using a range of resources including small world, puppets and construction
- Exploring materials freely, deciding on what to create at our craft, playdough and junk modelling table
- Explore how to create new textures and how to join materials
- Learn how to use tools and their purpose including scissors
- Mark making, drawing, and painting with freedom using large chalks, paints, pens, and pencils both inside and out
- Exploring prime colours and colour mixing

Understanding the World

In Reception, our learning is always embedded with hands-on experiences and this term, our theme is 'Go Outdoors'. We will spend lots of time learning outside, investigating seasonal changes, and developing our growing area including planting bulbs. We hope some of our key texts will inspire the children to make their own soup, where they will be able to observe the changing states of vegetables. The children will also develop their understanding of why it is important to care for our environment and living things.

We will enjoy an autumn walk this term where the children will be encouraged to collect natural materials they find and enjoy investigating and manipulating them in a range of ways.

Later in the term, we will learn about different festivals and events that happen around the world and in our country, including Christmas, Diwali, Remembrance and Bonfire night. The children will begin to understand that families celebrate these events in many different ways.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- We will be encouraging the children to explore their new learning environment and begin to form new relationships with peers and adults
- Develop their confidence in new situations and environments
- Interact with new children through group activities and play-based learning
- Remember and follow our school rules, understanding why they are important
- Consider the feelings of others they are playing with and begin to share resources

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing self portraits and observational drawings of poppies • Using natural materials to create images • Exploring musical instruments and have opportunities to perform songs and dances | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about their own feelings, using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'confused' and begin to understand our feelings through exploring the text 'The Colour Monster' • Become more independent with meeting their own needs - going to the toilet or getting a drink of water. |
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Our Key Stage 1 theme this term is: **Go Outdoors!**

In addition, the children in Reception will have enquiry questions that will guide their learning including:

'I wonder what changes?' 'I wonder who I am?' 'I wonder how we celebrate?' 'I wonder how it works?'

Below are some of the key texts that we will be reading and focusing on this term. In Reception however, we also follow the children's interests, so who knows where that will lead us!



'We care, we learn, we belong'