



Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Spring Term A in Reception! This newsletter gives you an overview of what your child will be learning this half term across the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Our learning is carefully planned to cover all 7 areas of learning and development.

Religious Education (RE)



Through stories, discussion and play, the children will be learning about Jesus' life and teachings, with a focus on love, welcome and caring for others.

Children will:

- Learn the story of the Magi visiting Jesus, including the gifts they brought.
- Know that Jesus is God's son who came for everyone and welcomes everyone.
- Retell the story of Jesus blessing the little children.
- Hear the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand.

Learn and say the *Glory Be* prayer and understand when it is used.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED)



Children will be supported to:

- Understand what a *challenge* is and how to set simple *goals*.
- Talk about what they might like to be when they are older and why working hard now is important.
- Recognise and talk about *feelings* such as happy, worried, excited or nervous.
- Develop independence in *self-care*, especially dressing warmly for winter and outdoor learning.

Share resources and work collaboratively with others.

Communication & Language



Children will:

- Speak in clear sentences and link ideas together.
- Listen carefully during stories, songs, rhymes and class discussions.
- Ask questions to deepen understanding.

Retell familiar stories and share simple facts from non-fiction

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills

Children will:

- Explore animal movements, especially animals that live in cold places such as **penguins**.

- Develop rolling, throwing and catching skills using balls.

Work together to move equipment and build dens.

Fine Motor Skills

Children will:

- Use playdough tools to create models.

- Draw penguins with increasing detail.

- Practise correct pencil grip and letter formation.



Literacy

Reading

Children will:

- Learn that sentences begin with a **capital letter** and end with a **full stop**.

- Develop early phonics skills through our **Read Write Inc.** programme.

- Blend sounds to read words and simple sentences.

Read and re-read books to build confidence and enjoyment.



Writing

Children will:

- Spell simple CVC words and some common exception words.

- Write captions and short sentences.

Use spaces, capital letters and full stops.

Mathematics



Number

Children will:

- Count, recognise and represent numbers up to 8.

- Explore **one more** and **one less** using practical equipment.

Combine groups to find totals.

Numerical Patterns & Measures

Children will:

- Explore how numbers are made using parts and wholes.

- Compare **mass** (heavier/lighter) and **capacity** (full/empty).

Learn about **pairs** and **doubling** up to 8.



Understanding the World

Past and Present

Sequence photos showing how people grow and change over time.

People, Culture & Communities

Compare penguin habitats with our local environment.

The Natural World & Science

Children will:

- Investigate ice, snow and water, including melting and freezing.
- Make predictions and test ideas.
- Learn about animals that live in cold climates.



Expressive Arts & Design

Creating with Materials

Children will:

- Paint penguins using watercolours.

Explore colour mixing and painting on different surfaces, including ice.

Being Imaginative & Expressive

Children will:

- Listen to music such as Debussy - *The Snow is Dancing*.
- Sing songs and rhymes about animals in cold places.
- Take on roles and characters in imaginative play.



Computing & Online Safety

Children will:

- Safely explore technology such as iPads, cameras and digital toys.
- Use our online learning platform Purple Mash (Mini Mash).



Enrichment & Special Events

- Winter walk in the local area
- Forest School visit
- Shrove Tuesday - making and sharing pancakes
- Ash Wednesday

Key Texts and rhymes to support our learning across the curriculum:

The Storm Whale in Winter

Hello Penguin

Where the Wild Things are

One Snowy Night

Fantastic 5 Nursery Rhymes

Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

London's Burning

The Farmer's in his den

There was a Princess Long Ago

10 Green bottles

Marvellous maths rhymes

5 Little monkies jumping on the bed

One, Two, Buckle My Shoe

Ten Green Bottles

Wider reading spine (including fiction, non-fiction and poetry)

Handa's Surprise

Anno's Counting book

1-2-3 of Art

When I grow up - sporting heroes

Lions: National Geographic Kids

Little People Big Dreams - various

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the Reception team.

Warm regards,

The EYFS Team



Learn to Love & Love to Learn in readiness for life