Autumn Term Reception

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception and a new and exciting year of learning. We want your child's first experience of full-time school to be an enjoyable and rewarding one and this first half term is vitally important in achieving this aim. We have been really pleased with how well the children have settled into school and we have enjoyed getting to know them over the last week.

The topics over the next term will be 'All About Me and 'Celebrations and Winter'. Amongst other things, the children will be drawing self-portraits, learning about their senses, looking at the changes Autumn brings, exploring colour and texture and a variety of celebrations. Children are always welcome to bring items from home that will fit with our current topic to share with the class.

P.E. will be on a Monday. Please make sure that your child has a named P.E. kit in school. These get sent home each half term for a wash and need to be returned the first week back after a break. Just a reminder that children come to school in their uniform and get changed at school for PE.

Book bags should come into school daily with a named water bottle and a small healthy snack. Children will use these bags to bring home any letters or work done in class so please empty them regularly.

As part of the EYFS curriculum, your child will be accessing our outdoor area daily so please send your child to school with a waterproof coat **each** day. You may also prefer to send in a set of wellies on some days (or leave a spare pair in school) that children can change into when playing outside. Please name these and send in a carrier which can hang on your child's peg. This does not replace the need to wear school shoes in line with our uniform policy. We will also be exploring Forest School sessions on Tuesday afternoons. Your child will learn new skills in the outdoors and extend their learning in nature. Information about Forest School will be sent home separately.

In Reception, like the rest of the school, we follow the Rainbow Rules. We will be encouraging the development of these rules daily through all our activities helping your child become a well-rounded, confident individual who is able to work well with peers, in small groups and as part of a team. To celebrate your child's successes in school, they can earn 'Dojo Points'. Please ensure you have signed up to Class Dojo so you can share these achievements. Don't forget to also check out our class story on Dojo which is your chance to see photos taken hot off the press of your child enjoying learning and playing at school. Although Class Dojo allows you to message us, please remember any important messages such as absences or appointments need to go through the school office for registration purposes. Thank you.

Over the year as part of our various topics we try to provide children with some first hand experiences. If at any point in the year you feel you can offer your services to pop in and talk to the class about something relating to our topic, please speak to a member of staff. For example, when we look at growth and change someone may have a baby and can talk about how to care for them. For our festivals topic you may be able to share something about Eid or Diwali or come in and paint some mehndi patterns for the children. Later in the year we look at people who work in different areas of the community so you may have experience in a certain career that you can share with us.

Please do not hesitate to talk to us about any concerns you may have and/or further information you think we may need to know from home.

We look forward to working together with you over the coming year,

Many thanks,

Miss Killen and Mrs Hillman

Reception Autumn Term 2026

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

At school…
This term we will be focusing on providing a smooth start to school life. We will be encouraging the children to become confident within school routines and activities. We will be developing our own class rules and learning to successfully work and communicate within a classroom environment. We will also be supporting the children to develop their friendships and their own self-confidence within class. We will be talking about ourselves, talking about what we are good at and setting personal goals.

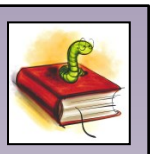
At home…
Children can practise a skill they are good at e.g. throwing a ball, singing a song or tying shoelaces and share it with us as text, a photograph or video clip to send into school.

Communication and Language (C&L)

At school…
Throughout this term we will be developing the children's confidence to speak clearly and listen well in small groups, large groups and whole class sessions. We will be talking about ourselves, our families and describing events. We will be building our vocabulary as we learn.

At home…
Children can choose a picture, photograph or object to bring into school to share with the class. Share good quality stories together and talk about what you have read.

Literacy Development



At school…
This term we will be exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction books based on our different topics. We will also be looking at rhyming words and will be playing a variety of rhyming games. We will be sharing stories, practising our letter sounds and writing a range of different things including lists, labels, letters, stories and more.

At home…
Children can share their school reading book as well as library books and stories from home with an adult. Encourage children to practise their letter sounds and learn the 'Jolly Phonics' songs which can be found on YouTube. Play I spy games using letter sounds.

Understanding the World

At school…
We will be looking at changes in ourselves and the environment around us. We will discover changes that occur in Autumn. We will be investigating our senses and how they help us. We will be looking at birthday celebrations and celebrations from other cultures and religions. We will be using I Pads and cameras to capture our experiences.

At home…
Children can collect photographs of themselves and family members to discover how they have changed. Collect images and objects showing changes in Autumn to talk about and bring to school.

Maths

At School…
We will use practical games and activities to promote counting skills, the recognition of numbers and adding and subtracting. We will also be describing and naming shapes, sorting objects and creating patterns.

At home…
Count objects e.g. plates on the table, cars in your street and stairs up to bed etc. Match and sort objects according to similarities or differences. Look for numbers and shapes and help children name them. Share number nursery rhymes.

Expressive Arts and Design

At School…
Your child's creative development is very much part of everyday activities within our topic. The children are encouraged to sing and create music frequently. We offer the children as many different creative experiences as possible- both working with an adult and on their own. We will be using paint, collage and pastels to create Autumn pictures as well as a range of textures and scented materials to create pictures. We will be exploring the sounds of instruments and singing songs.

At home…
You can enjoy singing and dancing together, building models and engaging with the arts.

Physical Development (PD)

At school..
We will be using a range of equipment including scissors, paintbrushes and pencils. We will be moving and travelling in different ways and throwing and catching. We will also be learning about our bodies and about the importance of exercise and healthy eating.

At home…
Children can practise holding and using different tools, use scissors to cut paper and play games involving throwing, catching and kicking a ball.