

# HARTFORD MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



**Summer 1 Term 3 2026**

**(April—May)**

**Newsletter**

**Early Years—Reception**



**Dear Parent/Carer,**

We hope you have had a lovely Easter break and that the children are excited to be back at school. Again, this term we will be exploring lots of different themes within our provision including observing caterpillars, tadpoles, and great tits and learning all about their life cycles. We will be looking at some fiction stories relating to life cycles which links to our topic 'What comes after the egg?'

This booklet is to inform you of what your child will be learning this term.

**Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED)**

During this term, we will show an understanding of our own feelings and those of others and begin to regulate our behaviour accordingly. We will also show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

**Physical Development (PD)**

In PD we will be continuing to develop the children's fine and gross motor skills. Children will continue to take part in daily handwriting sessions to help with their letter formation. In PE we will be doing a multi-skills unit, which will work on developing children's agility, balance and co-ordination. These sessions will continue to take place on **Monday**.

**Phonics**

During this half term, we will introduce the children to the sounds igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear and air. We will also be introducing the following helpful words: my, why, sky, by, sister, too, look and again.

**Literacy**

In literacy this half term, we are focusing on writing sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are going to be looking at the fiction texts, Odd Egg and Monkey Puzzle.

### **Maths**

This term we will begin our maths learning with building numbers beyond 10. Children will learn how to recognise, order and represent numbers to 20 and that teen numbers are formed of 10 and another number. We will then look at patterns using shapes - learning how to match patterns and create our own.

### **The World (Understanding of the World)**

In UTW we will be observing caterpillars, tadpoles and great tits and learning all about their life cycles.

### **Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)**

In EAD we will be exploring different painting techniques and will make observational drawings / paintings of animals. We will be learning to sing the songs and nursery rhymes, 'Big Bear Funk', 'The Alphabet Song', 'The Name Song,' 'Hickory Dickory Dock' and will play notes on the glockenspiel in time to music.

### **Guided Reading**

This term we are encouraging children to read their guided reading book as much as possible. Please read with your child at least 3 times a week, preferably every day if you can. Reading daily helps children to build their early reading fluency, improves comprehension, boosts confidence and expands their vocabulary. Please sign inside your child's reading diary every time you have listened to them read.

Please ensure that children bring their book bag, with their reading diary and guided reading book to school everyday. We have reading helpers and reading buddies (children from year 6) come to reception throughout the week to listen to the children read.

### **Mystery Reader**

Would you like to be a Mystery Reader? All you have to do is choose your child's favourite story, bring it to their class to read at story time and keep it a secret. If you would like to volunteer, please speak to either Miss Ingman or Mrs Atherton at drop off / pick up. Grandparents are welcome too!

### **Stay and Play**

This term children will get another opportunity to invite their grown-ups into the classroom to get involved in their learning. Goslings stay and play will take place on Wednesday 6th May whilst the Cygnets will take place on Thursday 7th May.

### **Sports Day**

Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 19th May at 2pm. More information regarding Sports Day will follow soon.

### **School lunch**

Thank you for selecting your child's lunch before school starts. Please see our school website, 'parent information' tab and drop down to 'school meals' to view the menu.

### **Dates for your diary**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – Reception Sports day – 2pm till 3pm.

**Friday 22nd May**—School closes for half term

### **Stay and play dates**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May:** Goslings stay and play

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May:** Cygnets stay and play

**Tuesday 23rd June:** Cygnets stay and play

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June:** Cygnets stay and play

Thank you for your continued support and we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead

**Thank you, Reception Team**