

HARTFORD MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



Autumn Term 1 2026

(September—October)

Termly booklet

Early Years—Reception



Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to Hartford Manor Primary School and Nursery. We are very excited to welcome you to Reception! We have had a great start to the year, with all the children settling in amazingly on their first couple of days. We have been enjoying getting to know them and teaching them all about school life.

At the start of each term you will receive a termly booklet like this, which will highlight what your child will be learning throughout the term. As well as this you will also receive a weekly newsletter where we will be sharing any important information, dates, reminders and information on how you can support at home and any homework tasks.

Every Friday on Tapestry we will post what we call “Snapshots of the week” which will inform you of our weeks learning. Some children say that they have done nothing all day long so the “Snapshots of the week” will give you an insight into your child’s day. All parents new to school should have been sent an invite to join **Tapestry**, if you have yet to receive this please speak to your child’s teacher. For more information on how to use Tapestry please click on the following link: [tapestry parent information.pdf](https://www.hartfordmanorprimary.co.uk/tapestry-parent-information.pdf)

Each day has several whole class sessions which last for approximately 15 minutes (this will increase over the year). These sessions are Maths, Phonics, The World, Literacy and Story Time. In between each of these sessions the children have Busy Time – which is where they can choose their own areas to learn in and have access to outdoors. During this time the teaching team support the children in their play and help to move their learning on.

This term’s learning

Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED)

During this term we will be talking about ourselves, our families, and things we like and dislike. We will also be playing lots of games to get to know each other and learn all about our school rules and expectations.

Physical Development (PD)

In PD we will be providing the children with lots of opportunities to demonstrate their fine and gross motor skills such as cutting, threading and drawing activities. PE will take place every Monday and the children will need to come to school wearing suitable PE clothes. This can be a white PE t-shirt, joggers or leggings and trainers. Please make

sure they have their school jumper or cardigan to ensure they don't get cold.

Phonics

We use the Floppy's Phonics programme which has two sessions for each letter. We begin with an interactive, whole class session where the children practice saying the sound, drawing it in the air and listen for the sound in words. In session 2 the children complete an activity sheet in small groups. During this half term we will introduce the children to the letters s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, -ck, and e.

Literacy

This term we will be doing lots of speaking and listening activities as a whole class and in small groups. We will be sharing our ideas and thoughts during circle time. We will be listening to a range of texts including stories, poetry and non-fiction to help develop our vocabulary. During this term, we will be looking at the stories "Goldilocks and the Three Bears", "We're going on a bear hunt" and "The Gingerbread man".

Maths

This term we will be matching and sorting objects, comparing amounts, making repeated patterns, and starting to learn about numbers.

The World (Understanding of the World)

We will be teaching the children how to use the different areas of the classroom using the phrase choose it, use it, put it away. We will also be learning lots of things about ourselves and our families. During this term we will also be discussing the changes we see in Autumn.

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

In EAD we will be developing our creative and performance skills through singing nursery rhymes and exploring different techniques of making art.

PPA

Every week myself and Mrs Atherton have planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time. My PPA will take place every Thursday morning and Mrs Atherton's PPA will take place every Thursday afternoon. Mrs Aspinall will be teaching both classes during these times.

Baseline Assessment

All primary schools deliver the Statutory Baseline Assessment. This is a series of short activities which will assess each child's communication and language, early mathematics and literacy skills. We will begin next week with the children who attended our nursery and the children new to our setting will be assessed towards the end of this half term once they have fully settled in. For more information please click on the following link: [Information for parents - Reception baseline assessment](#)

Love of Reading Books

Next week your child will bring home a 'Love of Reading' book. This will be a picture book which we would like you to read to them. They will keep it for the week and we would like you to share it more than once to encourage your child to join in with the familiar parts of the story. They will also have a reading diary which we would like you to write in once you've shared the book and make comments about anything your child joined in with.

Book Bags

Please ensure book bags come into school each day. We will send home books, any letters or children's work in them.

Labels

Unfortunately, we have already got a number of things which have been left in school and we cannot return them as they have not got children's names on. Please name all uniform (especially jumpers and cardigans), water bottles, snack/lunchboxes, coats and hats. This will help us and the children to make sure they do not lose their belongings.

Snack

We provide children with fruit for their snack along with water and milk. If your child chooses to bring their own healthy snack can you please make sure it is put in a small container with their name written on, (please no nuts, chocolate bars, or sweets).

School lunch

Please see our school website, 'parent information' tab and drop down to 'school meals' to view the menu. We would appreciate it if you could select your child's lunch choices before 8 am on the day or the night before. If you are unable to do this, then we can select your child's lunch on the door.

Junk Modelling

As part of our curriculum, we have a permanent junk modelling area. This is so that the children can learn cutting and joining skills in order to make any model of their choice. It is very popular and is always in need of more supplies. Please could you send in large boxes such as cereal boxes and small ones such as toothpaste and tissue boxes. We also need cardboard tubes from kitchen rolls. If you can help, please hand them to a member of the team.

Celebration assembly

Celebration assemblies will take place on Fridays at 9am (every 3rd week). You will get a message if your child is receiving an award that week.

Homework

We would like it if you could send in a photograph of your child with their family via Tapestry. We will be talking about who is in our family and will display these in the classroom. If you have not yet logged onto Tapestry then please send us in a photo and we will copy it and send it back in your child's book bag.

Dates for your diary

Friday 23rd October – School closed, staff training day

Monday 2nd November – School opens

Thank you ,

Miss Ingman

Mrs Atherton

Miss Aspinall

Mrs Mitchell

Mrs Gauterin