

## Reception Learning Adventure— Autumn Term

Throughout Reception, our aim is to provide an engaging, purposeful and fun learning environment where children's interests are valued and used to help them thrive. Last term, it was wonderful to see how our 'special weeks' supported children in exploring areas of the learning environment they may not naturally gravitate towards. This term, while continuing to support children's personal, social and emotional development, we will develop children's early reading skills through segmenting, build confidence in subitising, and support children in developing a strong understanding of the world around them.

### Communication and Language

As a prime area of learning, Communication and Language will be a focus throughout Reception. You can support your child at home by engaging in two-way conversations, encouraging them to express their thoughts, wishes and feelings in full sentences, and supporting imaginative play. Modelling new vocabulary, sharing stories, and singing rhymes will also help to develop children's language skills.

### Understanding the World

This term, our focus in Understanding the World is the world we live in. As a class, we will explore different countries that children have strong links to, supporting them to share and celebrate their own experiences. We will learn about traditional foods, clothing and animals, and locate each country on a world map.

### Expressive Arts and Design

Children will continue to be encouraged to express themselves creatively. This term, this will be developed through dance in Physical Education.

## Personal, Emotional and Social Development (PSED)

During the Spring term in Reception, we continue to nurture children's personal, social and emotional development. We focus on helping children recognise and label a range of emotions, supporting them to express their feelings appropriately. This enables children to build confidence, develop positive relationships, and begin to manage their emotions through emerging self-regulation skills.



### Curriculum Newsletter Reception — Spring Term

### Physical Development

Following on from exploring healthy and unhealthy foods last term, children will deepen their understanding of how food affects their bodies and the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. In Physical Education this term, children will explore different types of dance from around the world, linked to our Understanding the World unit.

### Characteristics of Effective Learning

**Engagement** – Children show curiosity and interest in exploring the world around them.  
**Motivation** – Children concentrate for longer and enjoy learning new things.

**Creativity & Critical Thinking** – Children share ideas, use their imagination and try different ways to solve problems.

## Phonics

This term, Reception will focus on consolidating Phase 3 sounds and learning new digraphs and trigraphs, such as "ch" in chip, "sh" in shop, and "igh" in night.

They will practise blending sounds to read words like fish, chip, and light, and segmenting words to spell them.

These phonics skills support their reading lessons, helping children decode new words and enjoy reading with confidence.

Parents can support at home by saying the sounds clearly, practising simple words together, using the phonics packs sent home, and reading books regularly with their child. This helps reinforce the sounds and words learned in class and builds confidence in reading.

## Literacy

In our Literacy sessions, we want children to develop a love of reading as well as build their early literacy skills. The classroom is carefully set up with lots of inviting resources to encourage children to explore writing in meaningful and fun ways.

## Mathematics

Our main focus this term is to continue building children's confidence in subitising numbers to 6, as well as exploring parts and wholes. This will support children in developing confidence when tackling mathematical problems within the learning environment.

## Key Dates

Valentine's Arts & Crafts Afternoon: Thursday 12th February 2026 1:00–3:00pm  
Half term: Mon 16th February 2026 - Fri 20th February 2026  
School Disco: Wednesday 26th March 2026

