

Curriculum Newsletter Reception – Autumn 2026

Dear Reception Parents

AUTUMN 1 HALF TERM ROUTINES

Welcome to Reception. We hope that both you and your child are feeling settled and are looking forward to the year ahead! We have a very exciting term with lots to do at school and at home. We will be developing all seven areas of the Foundation Years curriculum through our topic this half term, “**Ourselves**”. Reading books will be changed on a Monday and Friday. P.E. will take place on a Thursday. Pump bags will already be at school and left on the children’s pegs and taken them home at the end of every half term. Homework will be sent out and returned on a Friday. Remember to keep practising the reading and tricky words on the book marks given out at the Reception meeting. **Can we please remind you that your child needs to have a water bottle (labelled) in school with them every day and that children are not permitted to wear earrings or nail varnish. Thank you.**

Can your child please bring in
by **Monday 14th September:-**

- A baby photograph for display (emailing one via the school office is also fine)
- A family photo
- Any conkers, leaves, acorns, bark chips, shells, stones, cones etc for our Autumn feely boxes

How You Can Help at Home:-

Talking

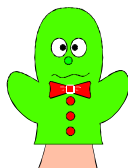
- ◆ Talk about family members
- ◆ Talk about what they have done during the day
- ◆ Encourage your child to dress themselves, including more difficult clothing such as tights.

Making

- ◆ Make puppets of people
- ◆ Practise drawing a teddy bear or a doll
- ◆

Stories

- ◆ Let your child look at the picture and tell you their own version of the story you are reading together.
- ◆ Visit your local library to look for books about ‘Starting School’



Out & About

- ◆ Discuss street furniture – eg post box, lamp post
- ◆ Read the first letters on signs
- ◆ Read the numbers on buses, petrol pumps etc

In the Kitchen

- ◆ Decorate cakes / biscuits with faces



Literacy

- Develop phonics and hear all sounds in 3-letter words
- Predict the content of stories
- Show an awareness of and use some conventions of writing
- Develop speaking and listening
- Read stories about people

Communication and Language

- Develop speaking and listening
- Follow simple instructions
- Listen to and respond to others

Mathematics

- Know numerals to 3, write them and count objects up to 3
- Find more than / less than a number
- Name 2D shapes
- Look at and recreate patterns

Physical Development

- Practise pencil control – nip flip grip
- Explore a wide range of movements through PE
- Show some awareness of space
- Knead and mould Plasticine and dough
- Know what is healthy and unhealthy

“Ourselves”

(This is what we will be learning in school this half)

Understanding the World

- Make personal timeline of own life
- Find out about and identify features in the place where they live
- Talk about seasonal changes
- Talk about Divali / Eid / Harvest celebrations
- Talk about different body parts
- Sort children by criteria they choose, e.g. friends, colour of hair, eyes
- Look at similarities and differences between materials
- Draw faces using mouse control to select and drag

Expressive Arts & Design

- Use imagination in collaborative role play – e.g. home-corner, garden
- Paint portraits
- Experiment with colour-mixing
- Use white and black to lighten/darken colours
- Sing songs to do with ourselves
- Discover how instruments can be played
- Use construction kits
- Make junk models

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Take turns and sharing
- Develop independence
- Talk positively about friends
- Find their own belongings
- Share experiences and feelings



phonics

Prepare your home learning for the whole of Level 2 with this bumper pack of Level 2 Phonics Parents Information Sheets.

Each sheet contains the mnemonic, action, formation rhyme, song and focus words for the focus GPC. Parents and carers will be able to keep up to date with their child's phonics learning and the sheets provide useful prompts for children to talk about their learning at home. These can be found in the Phonics folder on the Reception class page.

Today, we have been learning s.



Picture snake	Action Make a snake's head with your hands and wiggle your body like a snake!						
Formation Curl around and around the snake's body.	Song (To the tune of 'Aiken Drum') We saw a snake out in the woods, s - s - s s - s - s We saw a snake out in the woods And the snake went s, s, s.						
Word List Sound out these words for your child. Can they hear the word you are saying? <table> <tr> <td>sun</td> <td>yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sam</td> <td>bus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>sad</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		sun	yes	Sam	bus	sad	
sun	yes						
Sam	bus						
sad							



Aa 	Bb 	Cc 	Dd 	Ee 	Ff 	Gg
Hh 	Ii 	Jj 	Kk 	Ll 	Mm 	Nn
Oo 	Pp 	Qq 	Rr 	Ss 	Tt 	Uu
Vv 	Ww 	Xx 	Yy 	Zz 		