

Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Our learning this term will be based around two questions:

Summer 1 - During this half term, our topic question is, 'What came first, the chicken or the egg?' This topic focuses on lifecycles of plants and animals. The children will be able to experience growing their own plants, experimenting with what plants need to grow and how we contribute to natural life. The children we gain a greater understanding of what humans, plants and animals need to survive. We will also talk about healthy lifestyles and taking care of ourselves.

Summer 2 - This half term will focus on the topic question, 'Who left the message in the bottle?' The topic is all about travelling. We explore pirates and how pirates live (maps, transport, different ways of life) and going on holiday. Towards the end of the term, we will be focusing on transition to Year 1.

This year there is a new Early Years Framework and the Early Learning Goals have changed. There is an emphasis on improving children's language and vocabulary through increasing opportunities for conversations, reading of a wide range of books and holding discussions around activities in other areas of learning. Literacy and Numeracy skills focused on have been adapted to better match up with the National Curriculum that starts in Y1. There is no longer an exceeding judgement at the end of Reception. Children will instead be challenged to have a greater depth and understanding of ideas.

The ELG are now:

Communication and Language: Listening, Attention and Understanding;
Speaking

PSED: Self -Regulation; Managing Self; Building Relationships

Physical Development: Gross Motor Skills; Fine Motor Skills

Literacy: Comprehension; Word Reading; Writing

Maths: Number; Number Patterns

Expressive Arts and Design: Creating and Materials: Being Creative and Imaginative

Understanding the World: Past and Present; People, Culture and Communities

Maths - With the new framework, Reception Maths now includes Number and Number Patterns. Although we will be verbally counting to and from 30 this term, we will be deepening their understanding of numbers to 10 and beyond, the relationships between the numbers and the patterns within them. We will be using a variety of skills we have already mastered and applying them when building numbers to 20. We will be subitising (recognising quantities without counting) and trying to develop automatic recall of the number bonds for numbers to 10. We will be focusing on shape and recognising that lots of shapes build other shapes and which shapes can be used for this. We will be deepening our knowledge on reasoning (explain why).

Literacy - Throughout the year, the children have been exposed to RWi phonics. We use RWi phonics within phonics lessons, in Literacy lesson and throughout the day. Your children's reading books will match their RWi colour group from school. The children will also receive a story for adults to share with their children. Some children will receive individualised phonics videos each week to ensure they get the best possible start to Year 1. In our Literacy lesson, we now teach whole class 'hold a sentence'. The children work in a whole class setting building sentences and writing them independently.

RE - This Half term we will be looking at Creation. The Christian Creation story and how Christians are stewards of the Earth and how God wants the Earth to be looked after. We will also be looking at Creation stories from World Faiths and Non. Again, this will look at how people can care for the world and especially animals, leading on to how we can help to look after our world. The second Half Term we will focus on Old Testament stories, the stories Jesus would have heard as a child. We will link this to Special books, buildings and prayer in World Faiths.

Forest Classroom and Outside Learning

The children in Reception have a wealth of opportunity to access the outdoors within their learning due to our rich outdoor environment. The children we get to visit our Forest Classroom with our Forest School leader Mrs Khan. This will happen once every half term. We will use the forest classroom as a class when we see this fitting with our topic focus. The children will still need their wellies in school as we use them in the outdoor area.