

Term 4 2025-26 Reception

Newsletter

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful half-term break with your little ones and had the chance to recharge. We'd like to warmly welcome you back to the second half of the Spring term and look forward to a fantastic few weeks ahead.

Reading

Please remember that book bags, including reading records and phonics reading books, must be in school everyday.

We also ask that daily reading remains a priority and home as much as possible. This term, the children are focusing on **building fluency** in their reading. Fluency means being able to read a whole sentence back **without sounding out words**.

To support this, please encourage your child to **reread sentences aloud**, as this will help develop their comprehension and overall reading confidence.

Remember if you need more information about phonics and reading, do not forget to look at the Little Wandle website for tips.

littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Seasonal clothing and spare clothes

As the weather continues to change, please ensure your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school everyday:

Additionally, we kindly ask that all items belonging to your child – including spare clothes kept at school – are **clearly labelled with their name**. We are finding many unlabelled pieces of clothing, making it difficult to return them to their rightful owner.

We ask that these spare clothes are brought in a drawstring PE style bag as we do not have the capacity to store large backpacks. **Please make sure your child has spare clothes in school**. If your child comes home in spare clothes from school, please could these be returned so we can continue to use them in emergencies.

Homework Books

Homework books need to be returned on a Wednesday so that we can put new homework in them.

We will also be sending out a pack of tricky words for the children, so please look out for those, and please try to support them with learning them at home.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Fridays. Please ensure your child is dressed in the appropriate active wear uniform on this day.

General Reminders

We are always here to listen and help. For changes to collection arrangements or other non-urgent matters, please email us via the admin email address. For safeguarding or childcare issues, please visit the office, and they will guide you. For any other matter please send an email requesting a meeting

Dates for the Diary

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

British Science Week – 9th-13th March

Class Photographs – 16th March

Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March

Parents Evening – Monday 23rd / Wednesday 25th March

Author visit - Mike Brownlow – 23rd March

Thank you for your continued support!

The Early Years Team

Communication and Language Development

In Term 4, children continue to develop their listening, attention, understanding, and speaking skills. They build confidence in expressing their thoughts, engaging in discussions, and responding to questions with increasing detail. Follow multi-step instructions, e.g., "Put your book away and then sit on the carpet." Maintain focus in group discussions and whole-class activities. Show understanding of a wider range of vocabulary, including topic-specific words. Begin to infer meaning from a story, e.g., predicting what might happen next. Use past, present, and future tense correctly in speech.

Physical Development

We will be having PE sessions where we will work on balance and gross motor movements through gymnastics. We will continue to practise our pre-cursive letter formation and number formation as well as continuing to develop our cutting skills. We will also begin to understand the importance of healthy choices, including food, exercise and rest.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

In Term 4, the children in Reception will continue to develop their independence, relationships, and emotional understanding. The focus is on strengthening their social skills, self-regulation, and awareness of their own and others' feelings. We will encourage them to be confident with trying new activities and take risks in learning.

Understanding the World

We will be learning about the changes that occur in our environment, especially the changes that happen as we transition from winter into spring. This term builds on their curiosity, encouraging them to ask questions, make observations and draw connections. They will be exploring the weather patterns of this time of year and how they affect our daily lives.

We will be learning about **Easter** and why it is significant to Christians. We will talk about why it is celebrated and what people do during the holiday.

EYFS Reception Term 4 2025/2026



Mathematics

In Term 4, children build on their number knowledge, developing their understanding of numerical patterns, counting, and problem-solving. They begin to use numbers in more practical ways, deepening their understanding of relationships between numbers and shapes. Confidently count to **20 and beyond**. Recognise, order, and **write numbers to 10 and beyond** with increasing accuracy. Develop fluency in **number bonds to 5**, beginning to recall them quickly. Explore **number bonds to 10** using manipulatives (e.g., ten frames, Numicon, fingers). Compare quantities using **language such as more, fewer, and the same**. Begin to explore **length, weight, and capacity** through hands-on experiences (e.g., ordering objects by size, measuring water in cups). Use everyday language related to **time**, such as morning, afternoon, night, yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Use **positional language** (e.g., in front, behind, next to, under, above) with confidence.

Expressive Arts and Design

In Term 4, children continue to develop their creativity, imagination, and artistic skills through a variety of expressive activities, including music, movement, role play, and art. Experiment with **colour mixing** to create new shades and tones. Begin to **plan and adapt** their creations, making changes to improve them. Create **recognisable drawings, paintings, and models** with increasing detail. Sing a **wider range of songs and rhymes** from memory with confidence. Explore different ways to **make sounds using instruments**, changing volume, tempo, and rhythm.

Literacy

Writing

In Term 4, children continue to develop their confidence and independence in writing, focusing on applying their **phonics knowledge**, improving letter formation, and starting to write simple sentences. Form most lowercase letters **correctly**, starting in the right place and using the correct size. Hold a pencil with a **tripod grip** for better control. Use phonics knowledge to **segment and spell** simple words (CVC words like "cat," "sun," "hop"). Begin to write **Tricky Words** from memory. E.g., I, he, she, was, the.

Reading

In Term 4, children continue to develop their **phonics knowledge, fluency, and comprehension skills** as they work towards becoming confident early readers. **Secure recognition of Phase 3 graphemes** and begin to apply them confidently in reading. Read familiar sentences with **some expression (prosody)**, using punctuation cues (e.g., pausing at full stops, using intonation for questions). Begin to develop **self-correction skills**, noticing when a word doesn't make sense and attempting to reread.