



Bramham and Shadwell Federation

Curriculum Newsletter: Class R February – April 2026



Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	
<p>Reading In our daily RWI session our focus for the children is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read all Set 1 sounds speedily; including the following special friends: ch, qu, sh, th, ng, nk, ff, ll, ss, ck • Read familiar and unfamiliar words quickly (using Fred in your head) • Read short stories fluently • Read some red words fluently (e.g., my, me, the, of) <p>Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will continue to focus on accurate letter formation. • In daily phonics the children will continue to use Fred Fingers to segment and write simple words before practising writing simple sentences. • Through adult and child initiated independent writing challenges children will have the opportunity to practice their writing skills. <p>Comprehension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be reading a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction, linked to traditional tales, seasonal changes and celebrations. 	<p>In Number the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply their knowledge of subitising - seeing numbers quickly, without counting • Explore the composition of numbers to 10 • Use stories and rhymes to explore splitting numbers into parts to 10 • Compare quantities using the language of 'more than' 'fewer than' and 'an equal number' • Compare numbers (ordinality) using the language of 'more than' and 'less than' • Count to 30 <p>In Pattern the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to develop their mathematical language when talking about 2D and 3D shapes. • explore measuring and comparing length, height, weight and capacity using a range of equipment. • copy, continue, create, spot errors and identify the unit of repeat in AB, ABC, and ABB patterns. 	<p>Understanding the World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will discuss seasonal changes with a particular focus on growing. • Explore outside for signs of Spring throughout the term. • The children will plant and care for sunflower seeds and broad beans. • They will follow a basic cake recipe and compare it to a cake made from oats. • They will make pancakes to celebrate pancake day. <p>The children will learn about Ramadan, Eid and Easter and compare the similarities and differences to other festivals they have learnt about.</p> <p>The children will have Picture News assemblies with a topical focus. This will help to develop their understanding of British Values and protected characteristics.</p>	
Communication and Language	Physical Development	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Expressive Arts and Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be focusing on traditional stories: 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. • The children will listen to alternate versions of the stories and have lots of time to discuss and compare stories. • They will be retelling stories through story maps, speech bubbles and story writing. • We will focus on the 4 Success Criteria: To say our sentence out loud, capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. • We will further develop our oral story telling skills, focusing on key story language and will use story maps to support independent story writing. 	<p>The children will continue to develop their gross motor skills and be physically active through the daily provision of trikes, large building equipment, water channel construction, obstacle courses, den making and large-scale painting activities.</p> <p>This half term PE lessons will be led by FootTech, our external provider, and the focus will be on ball skills, in particular throwing and catching. PE will take place every WEDNESDAY this half term.</p> <p>Exciting fine motor activities will be provided to support children's developing pencil and scissor control, and strength and stamina when writing.</p>	<p>Our theme this term is 'Diversity'. Each week the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - share a story time that focuses on the weekly ethos statement. - participate in a circle time to cover any issues or changes that are occurring inside or outside of school. <p>The children will participate in activities linked to world oral health day.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will use a range of media to create pictures and models. • They will learn all about different types of houses that are built and apply this knowledge to their builds. • They will retell traditional stories using role play, puppetry and through small world. • The children will be working towards creating a still life picture of daffodils. These will be showcased in Reception's Class Gallery at the end of term. • The children will continue to develop their understanding of key music skills.

Helping at Home

Here are some helpful reminders of the resources you can access at home to support your child's learning and key vocabulary that we would encourage you to explore with your child to help them with their learning.

Literacy	Weekly reading and phonics homework Please support your child in reading for 15 minutes at least three days a week.
Maths	Please support your child to use their maths skills of counting, subitising, recognition of numerals and comparison in everyday contexts, for example ask for their help when setting the table for dinner ('how many more forks do we need?'), sorting and tidying toys etc
Understanding the world	Key vocabulary: Ramadan, Eid, Easter, spring and key words associated with these events and seasons.
Expressive arts & design	Key vocabulary: artwork, join, colour, water colour, tool, paint brush, split pin, wax crayon, colour resist, technique, mixing, pulse, rhythm, notation
Physical Development	Target: zip up coat independently. Challenge: Do up and undo buttons on trousers and cardigans
PSED	Key vocabulary: diversity, difference, similarity, acceptance, equality

Other ways to support at home:

- **Play games together:** Playing games together such as board games, card games and puzzle games can strengthen key skills such as problem-solving and resilience building.
- **Promote writing:** Looking for opportunities to write can be a great way to apply spelling knowledge and writing skills as well as to practise handwriting – shopping lists, family occasion cards etc.

Dates for the Diary and any other information

Our PE day will be **WEDNESDAY** this half term. Please could children come into school in PE kit every Wednesday.

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle at school every day.

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day
Wednesday 11th March – Reception Stay and Play 9.00-9.45am
Friday 20th March – World Oral Health Day
Friday 20th March – British Library oracy workshop
Tuesday 31st March & Wednesday 1st April – Parent Consultation meetings