



Bramham and Shadwell Federation

Curriculum Newsletter: Class R April - May 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 taught Set 1 and Set 2 sounds, speedily; • Learn new Set 2 sounds • Read familiar and unfamiliar words quickly (using Fred Talk, Fred in your head) • Read ditties and storybooks fluently • Read taught red words fluently <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 a simple sentence using correct punctuation, letter formation and spelling • Through adult and child initiated independent writing challenges children will have the opportunity to practise their writing skills. <p>Comprehension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be reading a range of books - fiction, non-fiction and poetry, linked to traditional tales, seasonal changes and pirates. • The children will answer a range of how and why questions to check their understanding of the stories read. 	<p>In Number the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply their knowledge of subitising (seeing numbers quickly, without counting) to numbers to 10 by spotting subgroups • Explore number bonds to 10 • Continue to develop strategies to count larger numbers accurately • Continue to develop their understanding of our counting system and that every whole number is one more than the number 'before' and one less than the number 'after' • Confidently say one more and one less than a number within 10 <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 and non-standard units of measure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will discuss seasonal changes with a particular focus on growing. • Explore outside for more signs of Spring and make observational drawings of what they see • The children will continue to care for their broad beans, sunflowers and poppies. • The children will learn about St George's Day • We will look at different islands from around the world • We will look at a range of maps, talk about directions and use a compass <p>The children will have Picture News assemblies with a topical focus. This will help to develop their understanding of British Values.</p>	
Communication and Language	Physical Development	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Expressive Arts and Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be learning the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk before moving on to the topic of pirates. • The children will be retelling stories through role play both on the outdoor stage and in the small world area in order to further develop their oral story telling skills. • They will be creating wanted posters for the giant with a focus on interesting adjectives. • They will be discussing the characteristics of islands by thinking about their senses and what they might see, hear, smell, feel and taste 	<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>In PE lessons the focus will be on developing football skills.</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 'Resilience'. 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 - have a weekly Picture News assembly in class where we will discuss a topical news story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will use a range of medium to create pictures and models. • They will continue to explore colour mixing • We will learn all about different types of boats and will design and build pirate ships and test if they can float • They will retell traditional stories using role play, puppetry and through small world. • 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	Spot numbers whilst you are out and about Count objects in and around your home and the local environment Practise subitising – recognising the quantity of up to 5 objects without counting
Understanding the world	Key vocabulary: victory, knight, galleon, compass, direction, deserted, tropical, barren
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: resilience, perseverance, challenge,

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 change back to Fridays. Please could children come into school in PE kit every Friday.

As the weather is becoming warmer, please ensure your child brings a sunhat to school and has suncream applied. Every child should also bring a named water bottle to school each day.

Wednesday 10th June – Class R trip to Harlow Carr

Wednesday 24th June – School Sports Day

Wednesday 1st July – Back up Sports Day