



Reception CURRICULUM LETTER

Spring 1 2025

Staff:

We have two classes in Reception; Mrs Tracey and Mrs Hatton are the class teachers with our amazing Learning Support Assistants, Mrs Gornall, Mrs Hoole and Mrs Slater.

Junior Jam will be covering the classes when the class teachers are undertaking their PPA¹ time.

If you need to speak to us, please see us before or after school or ring the school office to make an appointment.

Key information:

P.E - This half-term PE will take place on **Wednesdays**; children will need their PE kit in school on these days to get changed into. Please send your child in their school shoes, not their PE pumps/trainers. Please make sure all PE kits are labelled with your child's name, as well as **every** item of their uniform. Also, **please ensure earrings are not worn on these days** otherwise your child will not be allowed to take part in the lesson.

Water bottles - Please send a small clear water bottle into school. These will be sent home on a Friday to be washed and refilled. They **must** only be filled with water; juice and flavoured water are not allowed.

Glasses - If your child wears glasses please make sure they bring them to school every day.

Inhalers & Medication - If your child requires an inhaler please make sure they have one in school

¹ Planning, Preparation & Assessment



that is in date and clearly labelled with their name.

Home time – If your child is being picked up by someone who isn't a nominated adult, please let us know in advance by ringing the office as we will not allow children to go home with unfamiliar adults.

Theme: Our current topic this half term is called 'Once Upon a Time'. Each week we will be exploring a different story and using it as a basis for much of the learning within the 7 areas.

Week 1 – 'The Three Little Pigs'

Week 2 – 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'

Week 3 – 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff (alternative)'

Week 4 – 'Asian History week'

Week 5 – 'Jack and the Beanstalk'

Week 6 – 'Jack and the Beanstalk (alternative)'

This is what we are focusing on in the 7 areas of learning over the next half term

Communication and Language

We will be looking at lots of new and exciting stories throughout the topic and reading both fiction and non-fiction books, we will continue to encourage children to articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. We will teach the children how to connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives. We will continue to follow stories without pictures and props and children will be encouraged to answer 'how' and 'why' questions. We will also be encouraging the children to become familiar with stories by listening to them repeatedly and using them in their play.



Personal, social and emotional development

In PSED we will be continuing our Happy Minds work looking at the celebrate unit. We will learn about love and kindness and how we can be kind and loving to others. We will also think about how we can be brave and how we can persevere. We will look at how we love life and our world and that these are our super powers. We will think about how we can be good friends and support each other. We will discuss our dreams and goals for the future.



Physical development

PE sessions will be on Wednesday. Please remember that children change for PE at school and should bring their kit to change into. All earrings and jewellery will need to be taken out/off. We will be concentrating on developing our strength, balance and coordination. We will be further developing and refining a range of ball skills including throwing, catching, kicking and passing.

Literacy

In Literacy we will use books based on traditional tales to develop our comprehension skills and build our familiarity of texts. We will discuss characters and setting within

books and use this as a basis for our writing. Children will continue with their daily phonic sessions focussing on learning individual letter sounds, blending them together to read short words and phrases and then using them to write sentences.

Phonics

Mathematics

This half term we will be looking at numbers 1-8. We will continue to use 'Numberblocks' to aid our learning. Children will look at the composition of numbers to 5, comparing the numbers by saying which is one more and one less. The children will investigate what happens when two numbers are combined. We will also begin to look at





capacity and mass and practically measuring objects. We will begin to look at doubles and odd and even numbers.



Understanding the world

We will explore the different story environments. We will look at how we can build 'The Three Pigs' houses from different materials. We will sort man-made and natural materials. We will explore building our own bridges for 'The Billy Goats Gruff' thinking about how to make a strong bridge. We will grow cress in different conditions and learn what a plant needs to grow. We will also plant our own beans to create beanstalks. We will be exploring the season of Winter looking at changes in the environment.

We will be comparing different countries around the world during Asian history week and thinking about similarities and differences to where we live. We will also be looking at how birds migrate from cold countries to warmer climates.

Expressive arts and design

We will be using our creative skills to make paintings of 'The Three Pigs' houses, creating a collage of the troll from 'The Billy Goats Gruff' and using our creative skills to make something that could be at the top of the beanstalk. We will use different art mediums such as charcoal, and pastels to create different textures. We will encourage the children to return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. We will also be completing our KAPOW unit paint my world where we will be exploring painting techniques using different materials and working collaboratively.



Toilet Training



Please ensure that your child is toilet trained. If you are struggling with this, please come and speak to a member of our staff. **All** children should now be out of nappies unless they have a specific need.

READING

Please read with your child daily. It doesn't need to be the whole book; 5 to 10 minutes is sufficient. Please sign the reading diary, this lets the teacher know they have been heard at home. We encourage children to read and reread books to become fluent. Parents who



support their child with reading at home make more accelerated progress at school. **Ensure reading books are kept in your child's red reading bags**, so we can listen to them read in class daily.

There will be a charge of £10.00 for any lost or damaged reading books.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE DO NOT ALLOW NUTS IN PACKED LUNCHES AS WE HAVE SEVERAL CHILDREN WITH SEVERE NUT ALLERGIES.