

Reception Summer Newsletter 2026



Welcome back to the Summer term!

We wanted to update you on a few things you may need to know this term.

School Trips and Experiences: As part of our topic this term 'Growing and Changing' we will be going on our very first school trip where we will visit a farm and have a pond dipping workshop. As well as helping the children see the animals we are learning about, the school trip is a great way of supporting their social and emotional development and resilience as they venture out 'on their own'. We are also having duck eggs delivered in an incubator and we will watch them hatch and grow before they go back to their farm. After half term we will be having a minibeast workshop where the children will get to see and touch some very exotic creatures including giant millipedes and snakes! We round off all our learning this term with a Minibeast Party where the children can come to school dressed up as a minibeast for a day of fun and games.

Swimming: This term we have the huge excitement of swimming starting. The children will need to bring their kit to school on a Monday in case the swimming lesson has to move slots for any reason. If you could ensure your child's name is clearly marked on the OUTSIDE of their bag this will be really helpful. We recommend that girls wear socks (not tights) for ease of dressing and a zip up summer dress is preferable over buttons. Long hair will need to be tied up (as is the school uniform policy on all days), earrings removed and please make sure **everything** is named. If you could encourage your child with their independence skills this will help changing!

Phonics & Reading: We continue to follow our reading scheme. In order to support this fully we encourage you to read the book sent home at least 3 times within a week to develop the children's reading fluency. Please keep this up it makes such a difference to how secure and confident the children are in their reading.

Transition to year 1: As we move towards the end of the summer term we will start to prepare the children for their transition to year 1. Now we know the children better we will be mixing the classes before they move to year 1, we will be asking the children who they 'learn' best with to get their opinions before we mix. Once we know the classes and the teachers they will be having we work very hard to make it as familiar as we can for them, having lots of visits and playtimes with their new friends and teachers and time in their new classes. Our year 1 curriculum uses play based learning and is very similar to Reception in the Autumn term to aid this transition in to the National Curriculum.

As always, any questions, please do not hesitate to drop us an email or come and have a chat.

The Reception Team

OUR TOPICS

Events this Term:

- Swimming Starts
- School Trip 7th May
- Duckling eggs arrive 11th May
- Sports Day date 18th May
- Minibeast Experience 17th June
- Transition Visits to new classes – June/July
- Minibeast Party 10th July

As the weather gets warmer remember to apply sun cream before school and provide a named sun hat.





Physical Development

- We will continue to develop our handwriting and pencil hold to develop fluency and stamina.
- In PE we are preparing for sports day, practising our throwing, kicking, and aim as well as running for speed.
- We will be having weekly swimming lessons.



This Term our topic is:

Growing and Changing

We are learning all about animals and plants.
How things grow and change and where our food comes from.

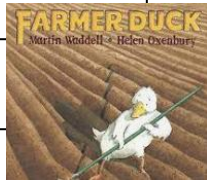


Communication and Language

- We will be learning specific vocabulary linked to our topics and learning facts about animals and plants.
- We will practise retelling familiar stories using picture prompts to expand our vocabulary and sequencing skills.
- We will identify 'interesting' language when reading stories and try to use this in our role play and then writing or retelling of stories.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- We use the PSHE SCARF resources. Our topic this term is 'Being my Best' and we will be developing resilience in our play.
- We will be developing independence in our own learning a little more and taking a pride in our work and achievements.



Literacy

We use a different book each week to base our learning around. These link to our topic.

- We will continue learning our sounds and learn to read and write more 'tricky words'
- We will continue to read books that match the sounds we have been taught to practise and consolidate our reading skills
- We will continue to apply our sounds in our writing – writing phonetically plausible attempts independently and tricky words.



Understanding the World

- In science we are learning about life cycles or animals and plants.
- We are learning about farming and where our food comes from.
- We are watching changes of materials by making butter from milk and bread from flour.
- In RE we are learning about what makes a place special and special places for us.

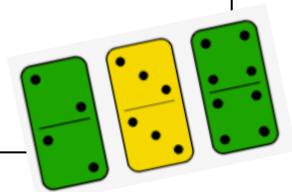


Maths

We follow 'White Rose Maths' scheme of work and also use the 'Numberblocks' resources from NCTEM

This term's topics are 'To 20 and beyond' and 'Manipulate, Compose and decompose' and will cover;

- Building numbers to 20
- Counting patterns beyond 20
- Deepening of pattern and relationship of numbers
- Adding More
- Taking Away
- Spatial reasoning



Expressive Arts and Design

- We are exploring pattern and collage
- We are exploring being imaginative through role play and using familiar stories to influence our role play language and narratives.

