

## Reception Newsletter

### **Summer 1 2026**

We have lots of fantastic activities planned for this half term and we're excited to share all the details with you in our new Reception Newsletter, which will now be sent at the start of every half term. Over the past months, we've been developing our EYFS provision and are thrilled to introduce some of the exciting new features of our curriculum. We hope you enjoy reading about the learning opportunities and experiences your children will be taking part in!

Our theme for this half term is **Kings and Queens**

#### **Key dates:**

- Recorder Celebration Assembly – 22/05/26
- Teddy Bears' Picnic – 22/05/26

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term, our PSHE lessons focus on our School Values:

*Kindness, Respect, Determination, Honesty*

The children are exploring what each value means and how they can show them in everyday life. Through conversations with teachers and friends—asking questions, sharing ideas, and listening carefully—they are practising expressing themselves clearly in full sentences. These activities help build confidence, social skills, and strong communication, supporting the children in developing positive relationships and understanding themselves and others.

#### Communication and Language

##### **Snack & Chat**

During 'Snack & Chat' sessions, children have a special time each day to sit with a teacher or TA and explore a different topic. This might include answering questions to spark conversation, sharing personal experiences, or discussing interesting ideas. These sessions help children practise speaking in full sentences, build on their own and others' ideas, and listen carefully. They also support confidence, social skills,

and language development in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. The children are really enjoying this calm, focused part of the day where they can express themselves and connect with others.

##### **Poetry Basket**

In Poetry Basket sessions, the children explore carefully chosen poems through rhythm, rhyme, and actions. Each week, children learn poems by heart, using actions and expression to perform them. These sessions build vocabulary, memory, confidence, and a love of language. We will be sharing videos of the children reciting their poems on the website! Find them under 'Our Learning'.

#### Phonics

- Phase 3: ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er
- Consolidation of all phase 2 and 3 sounds learned so far
- Tricky words: some, one, said, come, do, so, were, when, have, there, out, like, little, what

#### Literacy

##### **Drawing Club**

Our daily Drawing Club sessions inspire children to explore stories, imagination, and creativity. Each week, they listen to a story or animation, draw characters and scenes, add imaginative details, and gradually develop their ideas into writing. The sessions build vocabulary, confidence

and a love of storytelling, helping children see themselves as young writers and creators. The children have loved creating their 'secret codes', and it has been incredible to see how much their engagement with independent writing has increased. They are so excited each morning to see what we will be exploring in Drawing Club!

### Numeracy

This half term, we are exploring 3D shapes—recognising and naming them, finding 2D shapes within 3D shapes, and investigating their patterns. Activities include 3D “footprint” printing, spotting shapes in the environment and copying and continuing patterns. We are also focusing on numbers to 20 and beyond. The children are building numbers from 10 to 20, continuing patterns, making numbers in different ways and practising counting aloud beyond 20. They are developing their understanding of 1 more and 1 less, and using tens frames to add and subtract, helping to strengthen their number sense and confidence in calculations.

### Physical Development

A special thank you to the parents who kindly supplied guttering to enhance our outdoor water area—the children have loved creating marble runs and channelling water! In PE lessons this half term, our focus is on balancing, helping children build control, coordination, and confidence in their movements.

### Understanding the World

This half term, we are learning about Kings and Queens. The children are exploring what a monarch is, discovering the role of a monarch, and learning about some

famous historical figures, including Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria, and King Charles III. For RE, we have been exploring the story of Noah's Ark and its key messages. In Science, the children are learning about keeping fit and healthy, including the importance of exercise, good hygiene, and looking after their bodies. They are observing, discussing and making connections to their own daily routines.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We are continuing our weekly recorder sessions, getting ready for our recorder assembly this half term.

In our Art lessons, we're focusing on watercolour wildflower meadows, exploring colours and textures.

In provision, children have lots of chances to be creative with different materials. Recently, they've enjoyed Duplo and cotton reel printing to make patterns and even their own castles! The children are loving every chance to get creative.

### **General Notices**

#### **Class 1 Team**

Class teachers: Mrs Samuels and Mrs Needle

TAs: Mrs Snell and Mr Woodley

Thank you for all the donations of resources recently – we really appreciate all your support in enhancing our provision for the children.

As always, if you have any questions, or if you would like any further guidance in supporting your child, please don't hesitate to come and speak to us.

Mrs Samuels & The Team