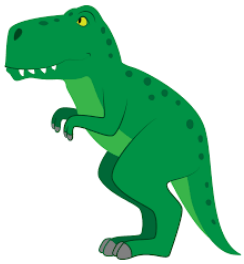

Reception Newsletter
Spring 1 2026

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you and your child back after the winter break. We have an exciting year ahead of us and we look forward to continuing to work with you to support your child in their first year of school.

Like last term, every Friday we will be sending out a Weekly Newsletter that will help you become familiar with the daily routine, how you can support and contribute to your child's learning journey and how we will be teaching your child to read and write. Every Friday, children are given a piece of 'Homework' to promote their language development and enable them to participate more fully in class discussions. Once a week, the children will continue to have the opportunity to take home a class reading book. These books can be kept for a week and will be changed on a Friday. Many of our children will soon be taking home a 'book banded' reading book. We will work with you to change these books as and when the children are ready. Please note we would like books to be read and enjoyed for roughly 4/5 days to help embed new reading skills and build up reading fluency.

Our Curious Question this term is '*I've learnt about other people, has the world always been this way?*'. Our Curious Question will give your child plenty of opportunities to enjoy learning about the past with topics such as *dinosaurs* and *castles and knights*. Overleaf, you will be able to see the types of activities we will be undertaking and how they relate to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the seven areas of learning.

The Reception Team

Attendance

Robin: 83.5% Wren: 93.9%

Target: 97.5%

Spring 1 *I've learnt about other people, has the world always been this way?*

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During this half term we will be continuing to embed the children's skills in making relationships and in developing their self-confidence to allow them to share their ideas, feelings and opinions confidently and to understand one another's feelings. They will continue to develop these skills and have opportunities to play alone, alongside and with other children. We will be supporting children to share resources, solve problems and understand different points of view.

Mathematics

We will be encouraging children to count, recognise and order numbers to 10 in a range of practical activities. We will be introducing the children to simple addition and subtraction, and we will be exploring shapes and measures. We will sing counting songs and read number rhymes together. We will also use 2D and 3D shapes in our construction work and will encourage problem solving in real-life situations.

Communication and Language

We will continue to encourage and develop the children's skills to talk about themselves and to use good speaking and listening during our group time discussions. We will continue to use 'Talk Partners' to enable all children to participate fully. We encourage the children to speak clearly and in full sentences, developing their communication skills.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be exploring different types of creative expression as we look at the work of different artists. The children will have the opportunity to look closely at ways they can use creative resources to express themselves. The children continue to take part in weekly Musical Bumps lessons where they have the opportunity to sing, play musical instruments and learning about rhythm and pitch.

Literacy

This half term we will provide the children with age-appropriate phonics reading books. We encourage all children to read simple words and sentences using skills learnt in phonics. We will continue to develop our writing skills through daily writing sessions and encourage the children to write simple sentences. The children will be supported in Phonics and Write Away sessions to ensure the teaching and learning that takes place matches and supports the children's abilities. Ensuring the children's excellent progress continues to take place each day.

Understanding the World

This half term we will continue to use the interactive touch screen in our daily learning, encouraging the children to explore age-appropriate programs, such as Busythings. The children will continue to explore the world around them and be encouraged to explore the outdoor area. This half term takes us back in time to learn about the dinosaurs, knights and transport. These topics will provide great opportunities for children to compare life now and then.

Physical Development

The children will continue to have physical opportunities daily when learning outdoors. Children will be encouraged to talk about the changes to their bodies after they have been active and will have many opportunities and challenges to develop both their fine and gross motor skills. We also have weekly P.E sessions in which the children will develop a range of skills from ball skills to movement. Fine motor skills such as pencil grip and the use of scissors continue to be an important focus in Reception, to ensure correct letter formation and a strong development of basic skills, such as cutting.

Robin Class
Teacher: Mrs Carew
Teaching Assistant: Miss Prosper

Wren Class
Teacher: Mrs Plews
Teaching Assistant: Miss Beason