



Reception Newsletter

Spring 1—2025/2026

Notices/Reminders

This half term is usually cold and we go outside every day, so it is important that your child comes to school with suitable clothing such as a coat, hat and gloves (if necessary).

Communication and Language

Our topic this half term is 'Amazing Adventures' and we will be using this topic to support the development of oracy skills. We will share stories and focus on developing listening and attention skills.

We will regularly learn new poems from both 'The Poetry Basket' and the new RWI 'Say a Poem' approach.

Learning new poems will support development of core language skills such as speech, language development and vocabulary through rhythm and rhyme.

We will develop oracy skills by participating in small-group, whole-class and one-to-one discussions.

Physical Development

The children will continue to focus on developing both their gross and fine motor skills to help them develop their strength and co-ordination. They will use a wide range of physical development equipment in both the indoor and outdoor environment. They will also use a range of tools such as pencils, paintbrushes and scissors.

In our P.E. lessons this half-term, the focus is on exploring and describing different movements and ball skills.



Key Dates

Stay and Play dates

Monday 19th January 2.00-3.00pm

Tuesday 20th January 2.00-3.00pm

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

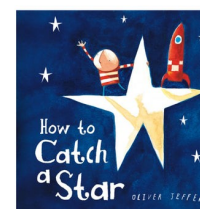
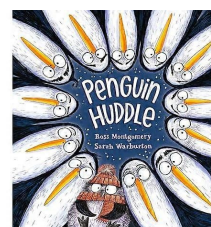
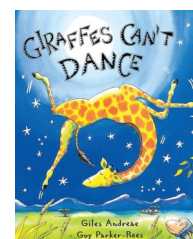
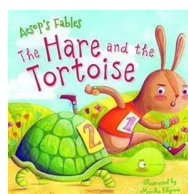
This half-term our focus will be on 'Dreams and Goals'; through this we will focus on having a positive attitude and staying motivated when doing something challenging.

We will also continue to develop our skills of both working with a partner and developing positive relationships.

Our Jigsaw lessons, and continuing to develop our understanding 'READY' vision, will support this learning.



Suggested Books for Reading



Literacy



Using the Read Write Inc (RWI) phonics program, the children focus on learning the sounds written with two letters ('special friends') sh, th, ch, qu, ng, nk and ck

Children are also introduced to 'red words'. These are words that cannot be orally blended and need to be learnt by sight. You will find a list of these stapled inside your child's reading record. We will update them when necessary. Your child will have a daily group phonics lesson based on their own phonics development. We will also be focussing on letter formation and writing simple words or captions. Through 'Talk for Writing' the children learn to retell the story of the 100 Decker Bus using gestures, actions and expression. They then practise using a story map to orally rehearse what they have internalised.



Mathematics

This half-term, maths will include the following areas:

Mastering number activities that continue to develop subitising, cardinality and ordinality.

Introducing composition and comparison.

Alive in 5: Subitising, representing, 1 more and 1 less

Mass and Capacity: Making comparisons and using balance scales. Exploring the language of capacity— full, empty etc.

6,7,8: Composition of 6,7 and 8. making pairs and odd and even.

Length, Height and Time: Learning mathematical vocabulary—longer, shorter, wider etc.

Ordering and sequencing important times in the day and describing events.

We will continue to develop mathematical concepts through our play-based enabling environment, where the children can explore ideas with concrete resources.

Understanding the World

The children will be developing their enquiry skills through understanding some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter— water to ice.

We will talk about the value of being curious and interested in finding out about people within our community and in other countries. We will start to learn about locality and our world thinking about our planet and looking at basic maps.

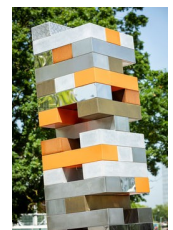


Expressive Arts and Design

In music, the children will be using their voices, bodies and instruments to explore different types of transport, identify and mimic transport sounds and interpret and perform a simple score.

In art, the children will explore primary colours and how they can be used to create secondary colours. They will develop their printing skills and replicate simple patterns.

They will learn about the sculptor Samuel Zealey and know that he created the sculpture located outside Bracknell train station.



What you can do to help at home

- Check the weekly Tapestry memos and talk to your child about their learning
- Continue to model reading for pleasure, and be excited about the books children bring home
- Play! Providing opportunities for your child to play, explore, practise and discover (both with you and independently) is so important to help them develop.
- Spot numbers, shapes and patterns in the environment