

# Reception Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you and your family had a good holiday. Summer 1 is a very important half term where we expect to see children making lots of progress. We look forward to working with you to achieve this.

## Living Things

The topics in Reception this half term are **Living Things and Dinosaurs!** We will be looking at animals and minibeasts and studying their lifecycles and their habitats. Each class will be having caterpillars and observing the changes that occur to them. We will also be making visits to the nature garden to observe the changes to the tadpoles.



## Trip to the Natural History Museum (NHM)

To support our topic on living things we have arranged a trip to the NHM on the following dates:

- **Monday 11th May - RW and RP Trip day.**
- **Friday 15th May - RF and RS Trip day.**

There is a cost of £2.80 for this trip, which is to help cover the cost of transportation for the amount of adults we will need. Please pay this on Parentpay by Wednesday 22nd April.

## Celebrations

Last half term, we celebrated Holi, Easter and Eid ul-Fitr. We welcomed our local Vicar Mr Furey to share the Easter story with us. We made Eid cards and many Easter crafts including our favourite chocolate easter nests. We also celebrated Mother's Day. **Our Father's Day celebrations will take place in June at 2:15pm and these dates will be confirmed very soon.**



## Home learning

Every week, we set learning tasks on **Tapestry or in your child's blue book** which will be related to our topics this half term. Please make sure you are logging on to Tapestry frequently. If you are not sure how to help your child with their home learning or targets, please look at the videos in the memos section on Tapestry and then talk to your class teacher. Targets are different from home work because they need to be worked on regularly at home and in school until your child has met that target.

## Water Play

As the weather gets warmer, there will be more opportunities for water play linked into science topics. Please ensure your child has a spare set of clothes at school in their red PE bag.

## Reading

Please make sure that you are **READING EVERYDAY** with your child. Please sign and date the reading record book every time that you read with your child. Please watch the reading workshop video under the Memos section on Tapestry for ideas.

Our learning is broken down into 7 keys areas of development.  
The activities that we will doing in each of these areas is shown below:

### Communication and Language

- Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding.
- Express their ideas and feelings using full sentences including use of past, present and future tenses.

### Physical Development

- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing.
- Demonstrate strength, balance and co-ordination when playing.

To help your child to develop their fine motor control, please watch the letter family handwriting video's by Miss Mehta, there will be links to these on Tapestry.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Be confident in trying new activities, showing resilience in the face of a challenge.
- To work and play cooperatively and take turns with others.

## *Reception Learning and Development*



*Summer 1  
2026*

### Expressive Arts and Design

- Use a variety of tools and techniques, experimenting with colour and design.
- Invent, adapt and recount stories they have heard or read.

**Encourage your child to retell their favourite story, make predictions and change a part of the story. For example: Changing a character, setting or the ending of a story.**

### Literacy

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
- Spell words by identifying the sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

**Please watch the writing workshop videos, Parts 1 and 2, which will show you how to support your child to learn to write sentences. If you are not sure how to help your child after watching the videos, please see your class teacher.**

### Understanding the World

- Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.
- Explore the natural world around them, making observation and drawing pictures of animals and plants.

**Explore your local environment and observe the changes that occur during spring.**

### Maths

- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds.
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

**There are links to videos under the memos on Tapestry which will help your child to learn most of the maths targets that they have been given. Please watch the recent number bonds video, in particular.**