



AUTUMN TERM INFORMATION UPDATE

RECEPTION

Adults in the class:

RD- Mrs Darbyshire & Mrs Lowton

RTS- Mrs Tiffany, Miss A Smith & Mrs Harrison

Additional support – Miss M Smith

Message from the staff:

Welcome to Reception! We hope you've all had a lovely summer. We have a busy term ahead of us as the children settle into their new routines and learning. You will be kept up to date with the children's learning via Seesaw, please ensure you keep checking your account to keep updated with all the children's activities, school newsletters and updates.

THIS HALF TERMS LEARNING

Literacy:

This year your child is going to learn to read and write. We will work on this every day.

Children will do phonics each day. We use a scheme called Read, Write Inc. The children will learn (surprisingly quickly) to recognise graphemes (letters) and say a phoneme (sound) for each one. At first, they will link each letter to an image, so if you hear your child saying *mountain*, they are talking about the letter *m* for example. The children will learn the correct way to write each letter and will practice them daily. They will learn a little rhyme to help them make the letter correctly. Please encourage your child to only write lower case letters. This is a big help to us! The sounds they learn will be sent home weekly to practice at home. More information about that to follow!



In addition, we will do Literacy every morning. This will include speaking and listening, listening to stories, acting out stories, drawing and writing.

We will share on Seesaw the stories we do in class as you may have some of them at home too!



Maths:

The term will start with the children getting used to the format of Maths lessons. We will use songs and practical activities which they can all get involved in. The main focus for the first half term is for children to understand the value of numbers to 5. At first, we will go very slowly so that children have a deep knowledge and understanding of the value of numbers. We will not worry about writing numerals for a long time this year as the value is the most important aspect of maths. We will count forwards and backwards.



How to help your child be a good mathematician:

- Watch counting songs on your computer.
- We sing number songs such as 5 little ducks, 5 little speckled frogs and 5 little men in a flying saucer!
- Watch Number Blocks on CBeebies or I Player. You will enjoy these videos too.
- Count everything together – steps to get upstairs, number of potatoes you are peeling for tea.

Physical development:

In Reception the children have access to the outside area daily. Here they are encouraged to do lots of climbing, balancing, running, throwing and catching etc. We will also have some sessions in the hall, getting used to moving safely: children will be exploring moving at different speeds, levels and directions and doing some dancing!



There is no PE kit for our reception children so they should come to school in regular uniform every day.

Understanding of the world:

After we have had our settling in period our focus this half term will be 'All About Me'. During this topic children will be drawing and talking about members of their family.

We will be asking you to send in pictures of your family on Seesaw.





Later in the term we will learn about two religious festivals in our 'Celebrations' topic. First, we will find out about Diwali and how Hindus celebrate and then we will get ready for Christmas and find out about the birth of baby Jesus and why we have Christmas presents. We hope to have a visit from the local vicar to explain to the children what Christmas means to Christians.

Christmas Nativity!

When the children come back after the October break we will start learning our Christmas Songs for our performance in December. Date to follow!

Personal, social and emotional development:

The theme this half term is 'Feeling good being me.'

The children will learn about different emotions using stories, songs and fun activities.

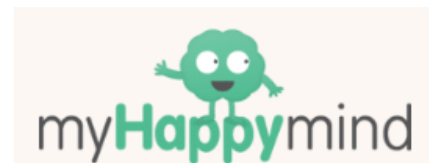


Next half term we will be learning about friendships. We will learn what a friend is and how we can make them.

During anti-bullying week in November, we will talking about how to be kind to others.

My Happy Mind

We will be introduced to My Happy Mind. This teaches the children how to have 'a happy mind' by looking at how our brain works and celebrating our strengths.



Expressive art and design:

We will start to have Music lessons this half term. The children will learn to sing new songs and move in time to the beat. They will play simple instruments to accompany their singing.

Ask your child to sing any of these songs to you:

- Five little monkeys
- Doggy Doggy
- Have you brought your talking voices
- A Hiking we will go





The children are encouraged to be creative in all sorts of ways. We always have activities set out to enable the children to draw, paint, colour in and make things. Be prepared for a wealth of creations coming home each evening!

In addition, we encourage the children to creatively respond to stories and real life. They dress up as characters and make large models of the stories they have heard. In lessons they get the chance to role play the events of the stories.

Reading Books:

It is going to be a few weeks before your child gets an actual reading book to bring home. This will happen only when they are ready. We monitor children's phonics knowledge frequently and use this information to group the children into ability groups. Only when they know a certain number of sounds and are showing that they can blend these into words will they get a book.



If you want to help in the meantime, please read your child their favourite stories as regularly as possible. Take an interest in the things your child says about their phonics lessons. Practice the weekly sounds when they are sent home.

Every child will be given a new Raynville Reading Bag when it is time. You do not need to buy your own. When children have book bags, please bring them to school every day.

 We will have a reading meeting to explain our Read, Write, Inc reading scheme and how you can help at home. This will be at **2.30pm on Wednesday 8th October 2025**. We will add further information to Seesaw about this event but please put it in your diary!

Library books

Children will soon start to take a library book home. These are for adults to read to the children. The children select their own book from the library to take home and they have a library session each week.

More information about the library books will be sent via Seesaw.

How parents can help at home:

- Practise counting objects with your child. Count the apples you are buying at the supermarket. Count how many steps to bed. Count how many teddies they have. Count anything and everything!



- Share a story together as often as you possibly can. Even a made up one is great.
- Talk to your child about all the things they are interested in. If they ask a question, it means they are ready to find out, so explain in simple terms. You will be astounded at the range of things they understand.

Things to remember:

- 🌍 Please clearly name all children's clothing, including lunch boxes.
- 🌍 Send a named water bottle to school every day.
- 🌍 Choose school dinners on School Grid every day.
- 🌍 Keep an eye on SEESAW, it is where we will let you know upcoming events, important dates and share what the children have been learning.
- 🌍 Please let a member of staff know if your child is being collected by someone different.
- 🌍 Parent Reading Meeting 2.30pm Wednesday 8th October 2025.
- 🌍 RTS Stay and Play Session 2.30pm Wednesday 15th October 2025.
- 🌍 RD Stay and Play Session 2.30pm Friday 17th October 2025.
- 🌍 Parents Evening Wednesday 22nd October.
- 🌍 We play out in all weather! Please send children dressed appropriately for the weather: raincoats, hats, gloves etc. All clothing should be named.
- 🌍 Please send in a spare uniform (including socks and underwear!) to leave on your child's peg incase their clothes get very wet.