



Autumn 2 2025

'I wonder how Autumn is magical'



Welcome Back

What a great first half term the Reception children have had! The children have all started to settle into school well and have begun to get to know all of our rules and routines. We have another very busy half term coming up. Please remember to read our Weekly Learning Overview email to find out what we have been focusing on in our learning each week.

This Half Term

This half term, Reception will be thinking about all the special times that happen during Autumn. Following on from learning about the festival Diwali, just before the half term break, we will continue our special times by finding out about Bonfire Night. Our next topic will focus on using the key text, Room on the Broom and learning how to make story maps about a familiar story. We will then learn a little about Remembrance Day and think about why people wear poppies in the month of November. Towards the end of this half term, our focus will move on to learn about Christmas and the story of the Nativity.

PE

Our Reception children will begin having PE lessons this half term. These lessons will be on Thursdays (from 6th November) and will be held in the school hall. We are lucky enough to be able to have our lessons with a dance coach and so this half term's lessons will all be around dance. As we will be inside for our lessons, the children will only need to bring plain black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings and a navy blue/red or white t-shirt. Please remember to name everything. Children are welcome to leave their PE kits on their pegs.

Reception's Festive Production

In December, the Reception children put on two performances of our Festive show. These are:

- Wednesday 10th December, 2:15pm
- Thursday 11th December, 9:15am

Due to the hall capacity, you will be able to book two free tickets for the performances. We will send out booking information nearer the time and if there are any leftover tickets, we will let you know for booking additional spaces. Many of the children will have lines to learn for the show. The children will also be encouraged to wear specific costumes. We never expect parents/carers to buy any costumes in particular as we have a large range of costumes already in school. We may just ask parents/carers to try to provide a particular coloured T-shirt or some party clothes etc. All information regarding costumes and lines will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

Putting on a show can be a little nerve wracking for the Reception children. To help manage this, we try to make the shows as calm as possible. For this reason we would therefore like to ask that only adults attend the performances and alternative arrangements are made for younger siblings.

Reading Books

Our Reception children are all now bringing home their reading folders each week. The folders include:

- A phonics reading book - This is based on your child's current phonics lessons
- A chosen book - This is a book to share as a family
- A reading diary - Please pop a short comment in here every time your child reads either their phonics book or any other chosen book from school or home. For every 25 reads, your child will earn a certificate.

We rely on parents and carers helping children to take great care of these books. We have a limited number of phonics reading books and we need these consistently each week for each group of readers. Please can we ask that phonics books are returned to school every **Monday** and we will then collect in all the children's reading folders on **Thursdays** to change them ready for Friday.

Spare Clothing

As already mentioned, as the weather is changing for winter, this often means that children may fall over in puddles etc. Please can all children have a set of named spare clothes that can be kept on their pegs. Please could these spare clothes also include a set of socks as these often need to be changed if children get wet outside or have a toileting accident.

As it gets colder, many of the children will need to bring in further items of clothing such as coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Please can parents/carers remember to put your child's name in all of the items they bring in to school. This makes a huge difference in being able to quickly return clothing to the right child.

Key Dates

Tuesday 4th November, 5:00-6:30pm - Open Evening
Monday 10th November - Anti-Bully Week
Monday 17th November - Road Safety Week
Wednesday 10th December, 2:15pm - Festive Production
Wednesday 17th December - Christmas lunch

Friday 7th November - ESA Sparkly Day / Sparkly Disco
Friday 14th November - Children in Need
Friday 5th December - ESA Christmas jumper day/Winter Wonderland
Thursday 11th December, 9:15am - Festive Production
Thursday 18th December - Christmas party lunch and afternoon

<u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> After spending our first half term learning all about the rules and routines for life in Reception, we will now be developing our own confidence in making friendships, sharing our ideas and talking to others. As well as building on our listening skills to help us listen well in a variety of situations.	<u>Physical Development</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> We will begin our P.E lessons in Autumn 2. We will be listening to lots of different styles of music and learning how to move in different ways and in time to a beat. We will also be learning how to perform a short routine. During our phonics lessons, we will be learning the Little Wandle letter formation rhymes to help us remember how to form our letters.	<u>Communication and Language</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> During this term we are going to be starting to use story maps as a way of helping us to verbally retell stories. We will also be encouraging the children to answer what, where, when, how and why questions to begin to give reasons behind our answers.
<u>Literacy</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> We will be continuing to have key texts, which will be linked to our topic, and be a focus for some of our child initiated learning. Throughout the classrooms and garden, we will be encouraging the children to recognise, read and record the sounds they have been learning in phonics and begin to use these sounds to read and write simple words.	<u>Mathematics</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> This half term we will be investigating capacity and becoming familiar with key vocabulary linked to it such as full, half full and empty. We will then move on to develop our understanding of ordering and sequencing numbers and being able to spot and correct mistakes in ordering.	<u>Understanding the world</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> We will be thinking about Autumn and many of the special times that occur during Autumn including Bonfire night, Remembrance day and eventually leading on to Christmas. We will be learning about why we celebrate these and how people celebrate special times. We will also investigate the changes in the seasons and why this happens.
<u>Expressive Art and Design</u> <u>Autumn 2</u> During the second half term we will be looking at how we can use shapes to make pictures and patterns, along with exploring colours and how to change them. We will also be thinking about how we can use natural objects and loose parts to help develop our construction as well as continuing to develop our planning methods		