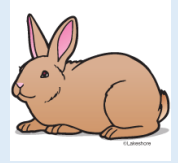


Summer Term 2026



'I wonder how things grow and change'



Summer 2 topics

For our final half term in Reception, we will begin by learning all about minibeasts and enjoying our class trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park, where we will take part in a minibeast workshop. Leading on from this, we will then focus on how plants grow and using plants in our maths lessons to measure their height and use language linked to measuring. We will then look at plants that grow in water, which will lead us onto our Under the Sea, Sharks and Pirates focus.

Transition

The Reception children will be given opportunities to visit the Year 1 classrooms as well as meet their new teachers and support staff. For our final weeks of term, our topic will be Transition and children will be able to write letters, ask questions and speak to the current Year 1 pupils to find out more. We will also be developing some skills within the classroom, such as how to use squares to present our maths work, developing our knowledge of letter formation and how to write on the line etc.

One of the bigger changes for the children is linked to how they come into the classroom in the morning. When in Year 1, the children will line up on the playground and be collected by their class teacher from the playground. To help the children know how this will work, we would like to introduce them to this for the last two weeks of this term. From Monday 6th July, the Reception children will line up on their class animal on playground and the school adults will take them into the classroom from here. The arrangements to collect your child at the end of the day will remain the same.

Parents and carers will also be given an opportunity to meet the year 1 team and have information shared about what year 1 will be like. Please see the date of this event below.

Being outdoors

Due to the nature of our topics, we will be spending lots of our time learning outside. We will try our best to make sure children wear aprons and wellies when working with mud etc but the children may occasionally get messy. Please remember to ensure that children have spare clothes in school and waterproof coat, even when the weather warms up. Please do not forget to name everything.

The Weather

The weather is always very changeable at this time of the year. Please can we ask that when it is hot, the children come to school with pre-applied suncream, a sun hat and a water bottle. With the children having access to their own water bottles, it allows the staff to have a better idea of how much the children are drinking, especially on those extra hot days.

On the days where the weather is looking less settled, please can the children continue to bring in a raincoat. As mentioned above, we have got lots of outdoor learning planned during this next half term and we access the outdoors in all weathers.

Key Dates

Tuesday 8th June - Reception's trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park

Friday 12th June - Earth Art Day

Thursday 18th June - Summer Fayre

Wednesday 24th June - Sports Day

Monday 6th July - Reception begin lining up on the playground

Wednesday 9th July - Transition Morning

Monday 8th June - Green Week

Thursday 18th June - Reception Maths Walk

Tuesday 23rd June - Make Music Day

Wednesday 1st July - Welcome to Year 1 meeting

Wednesday 8th July - Reserve Sports Day

Tuesday 14th July - Maths Problem Solving Day

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

For this half term we will begin by thinking about what makes us the same and what makes us different.

We will then move on to learn about transition and change and how these can make us feel. We will be working with the children to make sure they understand the move to Year 1, what Year 1 looks like and what might be the same and different.

Physical Development

During this half term, we will continue to focus on letter formation and presentation, including how we can use lines for ascending and descending letters.

Our PE lessons will continue to focus on athletic type skills such as running, jumping and throwing. We will then move on to bat and ball skills.

Communication and Language

We will be working on developing our communication and language skills to create and perform instructions for planting a seed. We will also learn how to retell stories, change familiar ones as well as make up our own stories.

Literacy

We will continue to really secure our phase 3 sounds and how these can be used when writing multiple sentences. The children will be deepening their knowledge of Phase 4 phonics, along with securing their reading and spelling of tricky words.

We will be learning more about sentence structure and how to use full stops, capital letters and finger spaces.

Mathematics

Our focuses in Maths will be measuring with non-standard units of measure and comparing heights. We will also be thinking about the key vocabulary tall, taller, tallest and short, shorter and shortest. We will then work on securing our recognition and ordering numbers to 20 and understanding the value of the tens and ones within these numbers. Over the whole of this half term, we will be building on our fluency to recall number facts as well.

Understanding the world

To start this half term, we will spend time exploring the outdoor environment including our wooded area and pond area, where we will go pond dipping and minibeast hunting. We will also be learning about how plants grow and looking at these around the school environment. We will move on to look at pirates and beaches and discuss the differences and similarities between our immediate environment and the seaside.

Expressive Art and Design

This term we will also be exploring natural art and how we can create pictures or models using the objects we have found in our outdoor learning environments, linked to our plants and growing topic.