

Autumn Term Reception

About
me

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the lovely weather!

This term, our topics are Marvellous Me and Celebrations. We will begin by exploring our feelings and emotions, learning how to be good friends, talking about our families, and celebrating what makes each of us special. The children will enjoy lots of exciting hands-on activities, including potion making, painting, drawing, and model making. Later in the term, they will take part in immersive learning experiences linked to important events such as Diwali, Remembrance Day, and Christmas. We cannot wait to share your child's learning journey with you.

Miss Rich, Mrs Williams and Miss Wood

Communication and Language

This term, the children will develop their speaking and listening skills through stories, nursery rhymes, discussions and daily conversations. We will learn new vocabulary linked to emotions, families, friendships and autumn. Children will be encouraged to speak in full sentences, answer questions and share their ideas with others. We will also enjoy listening to and talking about a range of stories including The Colour Monster, Meesha Makes Friends and Super Duper You.

Feelings ~ Listening ~ Vocabulary

How to help at home...

Talk about your child's day and encourage them to answer in full sentences that use 4-6 words. It is important to read stories together and discuss the characters and events as well as singing nursery rhymes and join in with repeated phrases. When you do this, please note it in your child's learning journal.



Physical Development



Children will develop their gross motor skills through PE, outdoor play and movement activities. We will practise running, jumping, balancing and climbing safely. Alongside this, we will strengthen fine motor skills through dough disco, threading, cutting, peg activities and lots of mark-making opportunities to prepare for writing.

Reception will begin PE lessons after October half-term. More information to follow.



Balance ~ Coordination ~ Strength



How to help at home...

Encourage outdoor physical play at the local parks so they can develop their gross motor skills. Practise using scissors safely by following lines on paper.

Playing with playdough to strengthen finger muscles and completing jigsaws, threading and construction activities together will help develop their fine motor skills as they begin to prepare for writing.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As the children settle into Reception, we will focus on building confidence, independence and friendships. We will learn about different feelings and emotions, how to share and take turns, and what it means to be kind and respectful. The children will explore what makes them special and celebrate similarities and differences between themselves and others.

They will be encouraged to be independent in as many areas as possible including eating their dinner, going to the toilet, washing their hands and asking for help when needed.

Friendship ~ Kindness ~ Independence

How to help at home...

Encourage your child to talk about how they are feeling and why. Practise taking turns when playing games to help them prepare them for playing with others. Support independence with dressing, tidying away and putting on coats as we move into the colder months.

We encourage parents at home to talk to their child about what makes them special and unique, to build their confidence.

Literacy

We will begin our Read Write Inc. phonics journey, learning new sounds and how to blend simple words. We will begin with Set 1 Sounds, learning each sound, reading CVC words and using RWI handwriting to form letters correctly.

The children will also enjoy a range of engaging books linked to our topic and will develop early writing skills through drawing, mark-making and giving meaning to their marks. We will also learn and retell nursery rhymes and familiar stories.

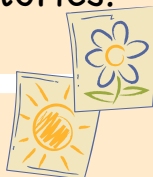
Phonics ~ Stories ~ Writing

How to help at home...

Share and talk about stories with your child and read RWI books that will be sent home with your child. They will begin with Sound Blending books. Read and share stories with your child everyday.

Encourage mark-making through drawing and writing opportunities so they can attach meaning to their marks.

Practise any phonics activities sent home. Parents, you will be informed via your child's learning journal what sounds they have learnt each week. Please make sure you practise them with your child.



Maths

This term, children will develop their confidence with early number skills. We will practise counting, recognising numbers, matching numerals to quantities and subitising small amounts. We use Number Sense to practise our number and counting skills and will begin with the number 1. We will also begin exploring numerals and writing them.

The children will also explore patterns, sorting, shape and mathematical language such as more, less, bigger and smaller.

Counting ~ Pattern ~ Numbers

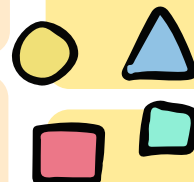
How to help at home...

Count objects during everyday routines and look for numbers in the environment, such as when they are travelling to and from school.

Talk about shapes they can see around them and encourage them to describe them.

Create simple repeating patterns using toys or natural objects and ensure your child can correctly spot colours like red, yellow, blue, green and orange.

Please use your child's journal to practise correct number formation.



Expressive Arts and Design

Creativity is at the heart of our learning. Children will explore a range of materials as they create self-portraits, family pictures, Colour Monster artwork and autumn-themed creations. Later in the term, we will create lots of exciting models, cards and gifts that link to celebrations like Diwali and Christmas.

We will also sing nursery rhymes, join in with action songs and develop our imagination through role-play areas linked to our learning.

Creativity ~ Role-play ~ Nursery rhymes

How to help at home...

Encourage drawing, painting and junk modelling with your child. It is also very important to celebrate your child's creativity and ideas, rather than focusing on the finished product.

Sing our nursery rhyme of the week, which we will share on Tapestry weekly.

Provide opportunities for imaginative play such as through role-play to build upon their confidence.



Understanding the World

The children will learn about themselves, their families and their school community. We will explore our classroom and outdoor environment, learn about people who help us and begin to understand similarities and differences between people. Towards the end of the half term, we will investigate signs of autumn and observe seasonal changes in the natural world.

Next half-term, we will explore celebrations like Diwali and Christmas and the importance of Remembrance Day.

Family ~ Community ~ Autumn



How to help at home...

Share family photographs and talk about family members. You can share family photos on Tapestry as we would love to share these with the children!

Take a walk and look for signs of autumn. As part of our class charity, the West Midlands Air Ambulance, it is important to talk about who helps us at home and in the community, such as paramedics and the police. Encourage your child to ask questions about what they see around them.

