Reception Learning Overview

Autumn Term 2 2026







Phonics

This term the children in reception will continue learning to recognise and say Set 1 RWI sounds. They will begin to orally blend sounds together to read simple words. Children will be encouraged to listen carefully to sounds, identify them within words and practise blending sounds together to support early reading

Physical Development

Children will develop their movement skills through fun, active games and imaginative adventures. They will learn how to move safely in a shared space, travel in different ways such as hopping, jumping and balancing, and begin to understand how to change direction and speed.

Expressive Arts and design

Children will explore drawing, painting and different textures using a range of materials. They will learn about **Wassily Kandinsky** and create colourful artwork inspired by his use of shapes, lines and patterns. Children will experiment with colour mixing and talk about their own creations.

Writing

Children will continue to develop their early writing skills by giving meaning to their marks and beginning to write for different purposes within their play and learning. They will be encouraged to use their growing knowledge of phonics to represent sounds in their writing and to attempt simple words using the sounds they have learnt. Children will develop greater control when holding a pencil and forming recognisable letters, particularly those taught in phonics sessions. They will begin to write simple captions, labels and short messages, while continuing to talk about their ideas.

R.E

Children will explore what Christians believe God is like and consider some of the qualities Christians believe God has through stories and activities.

Personal, social and emotional development

Children will explore how we can help ourselves and others to feel happy, safe and included. They will talk about friendships, kindness and caring for others, and learn how to treat people with respect.

Maths

Children will develop their number skills through practical activities. They will count, recognise and represent numbers, explore how numbers are made up and compare different amounts. Children will also investigate patterns and use everyday experiences to compare length, height, weight and capacity.

Understanding the World

Children will explore a range of celebrations and significant events from the past. They will learn about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas, discovering why and how these celebrations are marked. Children will also learn about the Great Fire of London, finding out how the fire started and how London has changed over time. Through stories, discussions and activities, they will begin to understand the difference between the past and the present.

Children will also explore different materials through play and investigation. They will talk about what things feel like, using words such as soft, hard, smooth and rough. They will sort objects, compare materials and find out what different things are made from.