



# Reception News

## SUMMER 1, April 2026

### OUR GROWING WORLD



Welcome back! We are ready for another half-term of exciting learning in the Bee class! This half-term we are looking at our growing world. We are thinking about things that grow, such as plants and mini-beasts. As the weather starts to warm up, we will need to be careful outside. Please remember to start sending your child with a sunhat as the weather improves.

#### PSED

Jigsaw is part of our PSED curriculum. This half-term, the theme is *Relationships*. We will think about our families and the jobs we all do in our families. We learn about friendship, and how unkind actions and words make others feel. We will think about how we can solve problems when we fall out.



#### TOPIC

In our UW learning, we will be particularly focusing on the natural world. We will learn about plants and how they grow. We will plant our own seeds to grow flowers and vegetables and work together to care for them. We will learn about different mini-beasts that we find in the garden and learn to take care of the smallest creatures in our environment.

In RE, we will look at special stories from different religions and cultures and find out what life lessons we can learn from the stories.



#### LITERACY

In Phonics, we will be learning the Set 1 and Set 2 special friends (two or more letters that make one sound), and learning how to read and write these in words. We are learning how to write longer words. We are writing phrases and short sentences. Most children will come home with a 'Ditty' reading sheet or a story book to practise at home. Please make sure your child reads regularly and don't forget to sign or initial their Rainbow reading card! We will focus on growing stories. Our Traditional tales will be Jack & the Beanstalk and The Enormous Turnip. Through the story of Jack and the Beanstalk we will learn about giant landmarks in our world and explore words that mean 'big'.

#### MATHS

In maths, we learn about counting to 20 and beyond, we will add and subtract numbers and apply what we have learnt about numbers to ten. We will look again at odds, even and doubles to reinforce our learning and we will learn about sharing and halving.



#### KEY QUESTIONS

- What big things are in our world?
- What grows in the garden?
- What does a plant need to grow?
- Do all minibeasts have legs?
- What makes bees special?



### What can you do to support your child's learning at home?

- Have family time and talk about your experiences. Children learn so much through talk and it helps them to make sense of their experiences.
- Enjoy story books together. Read regularly to your child and talk about what happened in the story. These are vital pre-reading experiences.
- Once your child does start to bring home books they can read themselves, make sure they read them regularly at home.
- Spot numbers and letters in the environment and point them out. Notice the numerals that make your house number, the number on the bus, look for letters from their name in the road name signs etc
- Count things, such as: counting the stairs on the way to up bed, counting out the cups onto the table etc.
- Climb, run, jump and balance at the park and in other fun ways. This will strengthen core body muscles.
- Play with playdough, use water to paint the fence or wall, use a spray bottle to squirt water on plants. Activities like this strengthen hand wrist muscles ready for mark-making.
- Share stories together at home to help children develop pre-reading skills and a love of books.
- **Follow the class on ClassDojo for videos to support our phonics learning, and other challenges you can do at home.**

### Which staff are in the Reception?

- Mrs Norris, Reception (Bees) class teacher
- Mrs Dale/Mrs Watson support staff
- Mrs Sian (Monday afternoon cover)



### REMINDERS

#### PE is on Thursdays.

Please remember to send your child to school in their PE kit, including suitable footwear such as trainers in case we are outside.

**(Plain T-shirt, plain joggers or shorts and school cardigan/jumper).**

#### Reading

**For those now on reading books or sheets, please read regularly at home.**

Check out the phonics videos on ClassDojo; don't forget to **sign the rainbow reading card** if your child reads, practises their sound cards or watches a phonics video. Please bring bookbags to school every day.

#### Other key information and key dates for your diary:

#### -Come & Read: Every Tuesday afternoon

You are invited to come and share a book with your child at 3:05pm.

#### BANK HOLIDAY AND INSET DAY:

4&5<sup>th</sup> May – school is closed to pupils.

### Contacting the Reception team

- We are at the classroom door at pick up times and are always happy to say hello or have a quick chat. Please keep messages at the start of the day brief because we now start phonics at 9am.
- Call the office to pass on a message or ask for a call back. 0115 9152953
- Follow us on the Class Dojo app, and keep an eye on the website for up-to-date information and key messages.

