

Spring Term Reception



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday and wish you a very Happy New Year! After a successful first term where the children settled in beautifully and made lots of new friends, we are excited to share our plans for this term.

During the autumn term, the children made fantastic progress across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They developed confidence in exploring their new environment, built strong relationships, and learned how to share and take turns. Through play and structured activities, they improved their listening and attention skills, began to recognise and write their names, and explored early phonics sounds. In mathematics, they learned to count objects, recognise numbers, and name 2D shapes. They also enjoyed creative activities, using different materials to express their ideas, and explored the world around them by noticing seasonal changes.

Our topic for this term will be Traditional Tales, and we have lots of exciting learning opportunities ahead!



Communication and Language

As part of our topic, we will be re-enacting stories, performing puppet shows and pretending to be different characters from the stories we have read. Children will have the opportunity to make up their own stories and perform them to the rest of the class.

We will be expecting your child to complete their Poetry Challenge this term. Please encourage them to rehearse the poems, speaking clearly and at a steady pace to work towards earning the Poetry Award. You are welcome to record their performance and upload the video to Tapestry we love to see their progress!



How to help at home

You can help your child by encouraging them to retell the stories they have heard.

Help your child become confident in retelling stories by using our key vocabulary. Try practising these words at home: first, then, next, at last.

Here is a link for the story of Little Red Riding Hood.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OW86K1jBJFI>



Physical Development

Your child will have lots of opportunities to develop their hand-eye coordination this term.

Please ensure they come to school in their PE kit every Tuesday for their lesson. We'll be focusing on basic ball skills and learning the rules of some simple games.

We will also be working on fine motor skills through daily handwriting lessons.

You can support this by helping your child form their letters correctly



How to help at home

Practise throwing, catching, and kicking balls of different sizes. Start with large balls and progress to smaller ones.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

To help us get along with each other, we will be learning how to be a good friend. We will look at characters from some traditional tales and discuss their behaviour. Should Goldilocks' go into the three bears' house? Was Jack right to sneak into the giant's castle? We will be using circle time to develop our listening, thinking and talking skills by sharing our own experiences.

When sharing books with your child, talk about the characters and their behaviour. What would they do in the situation?



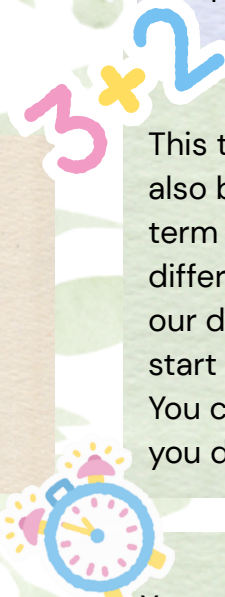
How to help at home

While reading with your child, chat about what the characters do and how they might be feeling. Practise using our new vocabulary: scared, angry, upset, and joyful. Try asking, "What would you do if you were the character?"

Mathematics

This term, we will be adding and subtracting single digit numbers. We will also be learning our doubles to 6. Last term we named 2D shapes, so this term we will be learning the names of 3D shapes. We will be comparing different sizes. We will also be measuring...the giant's beanstalk! Throughout our daily routine, we will be beginning to learn how to read a clock so that we start to recognise o'clock times.

You can help your child by looking at clocks at home and talking about what you do at certain times.



How to help at home

You can help your child by looking at clocks at home and talking about what you do at certain times.



Expressive Arts and Design

This term, your child will be encouraged to role play and dance to retell some of the traditional stories we have been reading.

We will be using a variety of materials to make a chair for Baby Bear, a helmet for Chicken Licken and a ladder for Jack.

Your child will continue to have free access to a range of media, materials, music and musical instruments.

You can discuss our key vocabulary with your child: loud, quiet, rhythm, and beat.

How to help at home

Have you ever tried making a musical instrument out of your recycling at home? Maybe you and our child could try this together. This website can be used to introduce your child to a range of musical instruments and the sounds they make <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjJcGIQraek>

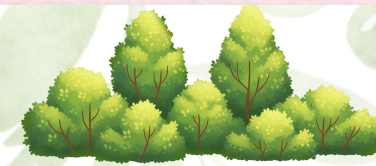
Literacy

Over the course of this term, we will be reading traditional tales such as, Goldilocks and The Three Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk, Chicken Licken and The Billy Goats Gruff. We will be retelling the stories and making simple story maps to take home and share with you.

To help us improve our children's writing, we will be starting the Kite Challenge! This challenge requires children to learn to read and write 100 words.

How to help at home

You can help your child by reading with them every day. Let your child read to you. We are sure you will be pleased with the amount of progress they have made.



Understanding the World



As part of our topic, we will explore the differences between a forest and a town, thinking about what makes each place special. We will also be planting our very own bean seeds to see who can grow the tallest beanstalk, just like in the traditional tale!

We are excited to celebrate Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and Shrove Tuesday this half term, learning about the traditions and customs that make these occasions unique. Alongside this, we will be observing seasonal changes, looking for signs of winter and exploring what happens when things freeze and melt through fun, hands-on activities.

How to help at home

When walking home or when you are out and about over the weekend, look at the plants and trees around you. Talk to your child about what they look like, are they big or small, tall or short? What signs of winter can you see? Can you spot anything icy or frosty? Are there any icicles? Encourage your child to use our new words: winter, frosty, icy, freezing, and melting

Celebrating achievements

We use Tapestry to record your child's progress and would love to include any special achievements from home. Please share these with us so we can celebrate them together! Here's to a fantastic start to 2026!

