



**Reception Class Term 4 2026**

**Learning To Read and Reading For Pleasure**

It is important that children have the opportunity to grow as a reader, as well as continuing to be immersed in listening to great stories.

On Mondays, children should have their book bags so we can update their Learning to Read phonics books. Rereading these during the week is essential in developing fluency and expression. This can be consolidated with the Mix It Up Game and Flashcard practise. Children earn Reading Stars for this practise.

Phonics is a fast paced programme that requires practice and repetition for new knowledge and skills to be retained and then applied.

**It is vital that children practise their reading skills at home 5 times a week. They should do this by**

- Playing the 'Mix it up' game
- Practising their sound and word flashcards
- Reading their phonic book regularly to build fluency

5 reads at home in a week = More stars = more rewards



On Fridays, children can bring their book bags back in to choose a story from our Bedtime Story Library. These are selected for adults to read and share at home.

**Phonics**

**What is phonics?**

Phonics is a way of teaching reading that focuses on the relationship between sounds and letters. It involves:

**Recognising letter sounds:** Identifying the sounds that individual letters make.

**Blending sounds:** Combining individual sounds to form words.

**Decoding words:** Using knowledge of letter-sound relationships to read unfamiliar words.

**Why is phonics important?**

Phonics is a crucial foundation for reading and writing. It helps children:

**Read accurately:** By understanding how letters represent sounds, children can decode words more effectively.

**Become fluent readers:** Phonics enables children to read more smoothly and confidently.

**Read aloud daily:** Reading storybooks, even repetitive ones, exposes children to sounds and words.

**Focus on letter sounds:** Practice saying letter sounds and blending them together to form words.

Jj	Vv	Ww	Xx	Yy	Zz
zz	qu	ch	sh	th	th
ng	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo
oo	ar	or	ur	ow	oi
ear	air	ure	er		

This term we continue to focus on mastering the sounds and common exception words taught so far focusing on Phase 3 sounds.

**Personal, Social and Emotional**



Our next module is myHappyMind **Relate**. This module is focused on teaching children the importance of being able to relate to and get along with others in order to have positive relationships. It uses Character Strengths to illustrate the need to be able to see other perspectives in order to build relationships. We also link this to what they have learnt about gratitude in the previous lessons so that they can bring the concepts together, and show gratitude to others for offering different perspectives.



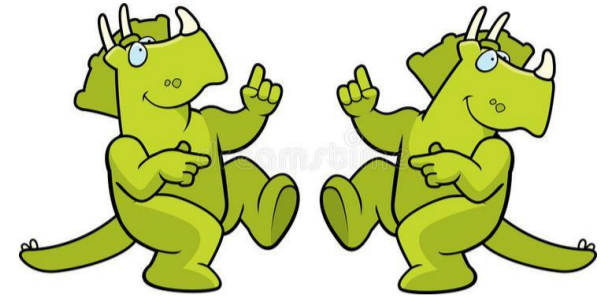
**Have you logged into the myHappyMind App?**

If you haven't, just scan the QR code in your child's Learning Journal to get started!

**Physical**

**Complete PE – Dinosaurs**

Children will embark on their first dance unit this term with a little bit of help from dinosaurs!



**Children must wear their PE clothes to school every Friday.**

**Welcome to Term 4**

**Dangerous Dinosaurs**



**Key knowledge**

- A volcano is a mountain with a hole at the top
- Lava comes out of the top when the volcano erupts
- Prehistoric means a very, very long time ago
- Dinosaurs were living things that lived on earth
- Dinosaurs lived 65 millions ago
- Dinosaurs are now extinct
- Different dinosaurs needed different habitats
- Dinosaurs used camouflage to hunt and to hide
- Carnivores eat meat and fish
- Herbivores eat fruits and plants
- Carnivores have sharp teeth and claws for hunting
- Herbivores have spikes, plates and horns as protection

**Key vocabulary**

volcano Earth's crust molten rock lava prehistoric extinct dinosaur habitat rocks water forest swamp camouflage attack defence carnivore herbivore teeth claws spikes plates horns

**Mathematics**

**Mastering Numbers**

In the term we will explore and practise the following skills and knowledge

**Counting, ordinality and cardinality**

- Counting – focus on ordinality and the 'staircase' pattern

**Comparison**

- Focus on ordering of numbers to 8
- Use language of *less than*

**Composition**

- Focus on 7
- Doubles – explore how some numbers can be made with 2 equal parts
- Sorting numbers according to attributes - odd and even numbers



**Space, shape and measures - Exploring 3D shapes and Patterns**

We will be developing our abilities in

- Naming 3D shapes
- Describing the properties of 3D shapes
- Identifying and creating patterns

**The World**

**RE**

This unit explores two spring festivals; Holi and Easter.

**Forest School**



We will support the children in beginning to recognise and manage risk around water. Leading to our first pond dipping session of the year.

**Forest School will be on Mondays and Tuesdays. However, it is helpful if children have their wellingtons kept in school throughout the week as sessions may change at short notice due to weather.**

**The World**

**ICT – Spring Time**

In our next topic we will be using spring themes to introduce the following ICT skills

- Creating
- Pattern
- Logic
- Algorithms
- De-composition

Children will learn about these skills in a variety of fun and practical lessons including making scarecrows, playing Rabbit Run and seed sequencing.



**Music – Everyone!**

The children will explore music through a selection of songs and rhythms through the topic 'Everyone!'