



We believe, achieve and celebrate

Reception Class Term 3 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.

This term we will teach the following sounds:
ow oi ear air ure er

the following common exception words:
are my her

and words that end with:
-ing

We then enter a revision Phase of all the sounds and common exception words taught so far.

Personal, Social and Emotional



Our next module is myHappyMind **Appreciate**. This module is all about teaching children the importance of gratitude. This module includes a fair amount of reflection and is very much about the children learning to develop what we call an 'Attitude of Gratitude'. An Attitude of Gratitude is best described as taking the time to stop and think about all there is to be grateful for. The research shows that regularly doing this has a hugely positive impact on our well-being.



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 - Gymnastics

Gymnastics helps children develop strength, balance, and coordination through fun, playful movement. It improves flexibility and builds healthy bones while supporting motor skill development. Sessions also encourage listening, following instructions, and taking turns. Children gain confidence as they learn new skills and overcome challenges.



Children must wear their PE clothes to school every Friday.

**Welcome to Term 3
Starry Night**



Key knowledge

- Not all humans and animals sleep during the night
- Dark is the absence of light
- The first men on the moon were called Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin
- They travelled to the moon in a space rocket
- Owls are nocturnal
- Owls are carnivores
- Owls hunt for food like mice and insects
- Bats are flying mammals
- Bats are nocturnal
- Most bats are carnivores and eat insects
- The biggest bat is a fruit bat
- Cuddly toys are made from soft materials so that they are comforting

Key vocabulary

day night moon stars nocturnal sun dark light absence
Neil Armstrong Buzz Aldrin Lunar Module – The Eagle
flag spacesuit carnivore feathers silent flight claws
brave mammal upside down cave vampire
Stuff cut thread glue tie

Mathematics

Mastering Numbers

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

Subitising

- Subitising within 5 focusing on die patterns
- Matching numerals to quantities within 5

Counting, ordinality and cardinality

- Counting – focus on ordinality and the 'staircase' pattern
- Seeing that each number is one more than the previous number

Composition

- Focusing on 5
- Focusing on seeing 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit'
- Comparing sets and use language of comparison: *more than, fewer than, an equal number to*
 - Making unequal sets equal



**Space, shape and measures -
Circle, triangles and shapes with 4 sides**

We will be developing our abilities in

- Naming 2D shapes
- Describing the properties of 2D shapes
- Making comparisons

The World

RE

This unit helps us to explore what many Christians believe about God. This includes ideas about a loving God who is creator, giver of life and has put humans in charge of caring for a wonderful earth.



Forest School

We will observe the changes that occur as summer becomes autumn. Children will have the opportunity to join in with observing seasonal changes, making ice art and sketches.

Forest School in on Mondays. 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 – Super Space

In our first topic we will be using autumnal 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 creating aliens, building rockets and directing rockets.

Music – samba drums

The children will explore music through a selection of songs and rhythms on the topic 'My Stories.'