

Reception Spring Term Curriculum 2026



Theme that will be explored across all areas of learning:

Who is in my Community?

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding

- Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
- Listen with increasing attention.
- Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound.
- Ask and answer simple questions to find out more and to check their understanding; for example, I wonder why...?

Speaking

- Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.
- Learn new vocabulary through stories and topics and use throughout the day.
- Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking.
- Listen to and talk about non-fiction texts and stories to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.
- Learn rhymes, poems and songs.
- Describe events in some detail.

Phonics

In Spring, the children will be taught:

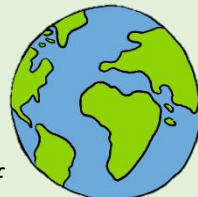
- ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er
- Words with double letters: dd, mm, tt, bb, rr, gg, pp, ff
- Tricky Words: was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure
- To read longer words, words with two or more digraphs and words ending in -ing .



We will apply our phonics skills during our decoding, prosody and comprehension reading sessions.

Understanding the World

- Discover new knowledge about the roles of people in our community and think about the impact that they have on our lives.
- Explore and understand the changes that happen in the natural world as we transition from winter to spring.
- Discover more about recycling and how materials can be re-used as part of caring for the environment.
- Learn about different cultural celebrations, including Lunar New Year and Easter.



Physical Development

- Use a range of large and small apparatus, both indoors and outdoors, confidently and safely.
- Develop their fine motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently: for example pencils for drawing and writing, and paintbrushes.
- Weekly PE sessions continue to develop their gross motor skills. These sessions will focus on developing balance bike skills and gymnastics.
- Know and talk about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing: regular physical activity, healthy eating, cleaning teeth.



Literacy

Reading Comprehension

Through an exploration of a variety of texts, children will:

- describe main story settings, events and principal characters in increasing detail;
- orally retell a simple story in a group;
- re-enact and innovate stories and poems they have heard in their play;
- use vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experiences of reading;
- be able to identify non-fiction texts using their knowledge of features.



Writing

Using their increasing phonics knowledge, children will:

- enjoy creating texts to communicate meaning for an increasingly wide range of purposes, such as making greetings cards, tickets, lists and creating their own stories and books with images and words;
- practise writing short sentences showing an awareness of finger spaces;
- spell some tricky words accurately;
- form most lower case letters correctly.

Expressive Arts and Design

Through practical experiences, the children will have the opportunity to:

- explore and use a range of materials to construct with;
- explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings;
- create drawings of the natural world, including animals and plants;
- through cooking, explore the changes that occur when ingredients are mixed together, cooked or cooled;
- listen attentively, move to and talk about a variety of music, developing the ability to express their feelings and responses;
- sing songs on their own or in groups, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will learn and explore:

- how children can see themselves as a valuable individual;
- how to express their feelings and the feelings of others;
- how to show perseverance and resilience in the face of challenge;
- how to build constructive and respectful relationships;
- how to identify and begin to moderate their own feelings, socially and emotionally.



Mathematics

- Begin to identify missing parts for numbers within 5.
- Continue to develop their subitising skills for numbers within and beyond 5; increasingly connect quantities to numerals.
- Explore the structure of the numbers 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit' and connect this to finger patterns.
- Focus on equal and unequal groups when comparing numbers.
- Understand that two equal groups can be called a 'double' and connect this to finger patterns.
- Sort odd and even numbers according to their 'shape'.
- Continue to develop their understanding of the counting sequence and link cardinality and ordinality through the 'staircase' pattern.
- Join in with verbal counts beyond 20, hearing the repeated pattern within the counting system.
- Order numbers and play track games.



Additional Enrichment

Visitors from the community to visit the children throughout the term.

Little City
Village Walk