

Curriculum Information for Parents

Year R – Spring Term 1 2026

The Environment!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term, we will be learning how to be a good friend, playing games, practising turn taking and taking steps to resolve conflicts, whilst also considering the feelings of others. We will also be talking about our own needs and learning about how to keep our body healthy, including healthy food choices.

Physical Development

We will be developing our fine motor skills by using play dough and other tools to strengthen the muscles in our hands. As our muscles get stronger, we will be practising our pencil grip too. In PE, we will also be developing our ball skills whilst considering how to throw and catch safely using hand eye co-ordination and spatial awareness.

Communication and Language

We will continue to expand our vocabulary through Drawing Club and through interactions in provision. Social phrases will continue to be shared and explicitly modelled for children to use. This allows them to begin to navigate conflicts, problem solve and offer solutions when these problems arise.

Literacy

In Drawing Club, we will be exploring a range of texts. Whilst writing, we will be taking care to form our letters correctly through consolidating our letter formation rhymes. We will begin to apply this when writing words and captions. The books that will feature in our story vote stations will explore different places locally and around the world.

Other Information

- ❖ Our new learning vehicle is 'The Environment!' this half term this will focus on different places that people and animals live in.
- ❖ Our PE day has now changed to a Monday for both classes due to our visiting sports coach. All children need to wear PE kits on this day.
- ❖ Our library day continues to be on a Thursday for Tortoises and a Friday for Chameleons. Please ensure children return library books via their bookbags on these days so that they can have the opportunity to select new books to bring home.
- ❖ It is time for Year R to begin taking part in home learning! Please look out for your child's home learning book in their bookbags with further information.

Suggestions to help your child at home...

- ❖ Recognising numerals and placing them in the correct order, exploring 1 more and 1 less.
- ❖ Forming letters correctly, ensuring to start in the right place. Focussing particularly on the letters within their names.
- ❖ Can your child practise using a range of tools at home? e.g. knives and forks to cut up their own dinner, mixing cold ingredients, using scissors etc.
- ❖ Children are getting really good at recognising their phonics sounds and segmenting words into sounds. Whilst reading with your child, please can we encourage children to blend the sounds together to form the whole word. Reading daily will support the children with their confidence in this.
- ❖ Keep reading those library and phonics books together and continue to record them within their reading logs. We have already given out so many of our new reading badges this academic year! Well done Year R, keep it up!

Maths

Our daily maths sessions and mental maths this half term will include....

- What is 0?
- Find, subitise and represent 0-8.
- Composition of number up to 8
- Finding one more and one less
- Measure, including: length, mass, balance and capacity
- Doubles and pairs
- Odds and evens
- Combining 2 groups

Understanding of the World

We will be learning about places, both locally and around the world. When examining our local area, we will think about our school grounds and begin to explore maps. Through this, we will be able to compare what is close to us and far away. We will also be revisiting our learning about seasons to discuss the changes in our environment as we enter winter.

Expressive Arts and Design

This half term, we will explore art and musical instruments from around the world. We will enjoy listening to a range of music and use these instruments to create sound effects and songs for well-known stories. We will begin to think about how to add smaller details within our junk modelling and consider what materials we need when planning our creations. Children will be exposed to lots of different buildings and locations this term and will be challenged to try and incorporate this within their modelling.