



Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026: Year R



Welcome to Reception and the start of your child's school journey. The children are enjoying their time in school and we are delighted with how they have settled. We are excited for the term ahead and look forward to getting to know you all as the term progresses. We have many fantastic curriculum opportunities planned for the term including a day celebrating Diwali and an opportunity to come and see what we get up to at our 'Open the Door' event. A highlight of the autumn term is our Christmas production which will certainly get you in the mood for Christmas.

English

Throughout the term we will share quality texts with the children to support our topics. Children will engage with the books through extended conversations about the stories. As children start their phonics journey, they will begin to recognise sounds and hear them in words. They will have lots of opportunities in a wide range of ways to apply their letter knowledge in their early writing and spot the sounds they recognise in the environment. They will be encouraged to give meaning to the marks that they make as they draw, write and paint. Name recognition is a big focus during this term so children will practise this daily.

Maths

This term children will be matching, sorting and comparing objects and amounts. They will talk about measures, comparing size, mass and capacity. Children will explore simple patterns by copying and creating their own. Children will learn all about numbers 1 to 5 in depth, looking at more or less, composition and how to count and represent these numbers. 2D shapes will be investigated looking at circles, triangles and shapes with four sides.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be looking at class rules where we will share and cooperate and build an awareness of one's own and other's needs. We will learn about emotions through books, photographs, real life situations to explore feelings and opinions, ways to stay calm and why it is important to take turns, wait politely and tidy up, perspective of others.

Communication and Language

The children will be developing the skills of being able to sit, listen and concentrate for short periods of time. Children will extend their language through imaginative play and storytelling. New vocabulary will be introduced to support the topics we are learning. Children will be encouraged to build their confidence when speaking in a small group by sharing home and school experiences.

Physical Development

PE is on a Monday and Thursday. Children will take part in daily Dough Disco sessions to develop their fine motor skills. We will be introducing children to PE in the hall where they will explore different ways to travel using equipment. As part of our physical development, children will also take part in bike ability sessions across autumn and spring term. Giving them the opportunity to learn new skills and practise existing ones.

Understanding the World

Children will have opportunities to discuss their families and significant events such as birthdays and outings. This will enable the children to begin to recognise that we have similarities and differences. We will learn about different celebrations and significant historical events such as Bonfire Night and Remembrance Day.

Expressive Arts and Design

As part of our music curriculum we will be listening and responding to pieces of music. We will also explore body percussion and introduce the children to some instruments. Children will capture experiences through different mediums using a variety of materials. For example design a quilt for Goldilocks, junk modelling the 3 pigs houses and vegetable printing for harvest.

Outdoor play

It is important that children have a suitable coat and wellies in school at all times. During cold /wet months could you provide your children with hats and gloves that can be kept in their school blue book bags.

Helping at Home

Help at home is greatly appreciated.

- Encourage your child to put on their coat and clothes independently (including zips).
- Encourage your child to write their name (showing the children the correct formation by copying over a yellow highlighter can help them to build confidence forming the letters in their name).
- Share a range of stories with your child.
- Encourage your child to extend their sentences to develop their vocabulary.
Child: I want ball.
Adult: Would you like the big blue ball?
- Practise counting and number recognition during daily routines such as counting toys, or spotting numbers around them.

Class Page Link: <https://www.straitsprimaryschool.com/foundation-2/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any support.

