

## Physical Development

We will be focusing on developing the children's fine motor skills by encouraging them to confidently use pencils, scissors and other tools.

The children will be encouraged to develop their gross motor skills through running, climbing, and jumping in our outdoor area. The children will be engaging in team games and learning the basic skills of kicking, throwing and catching a ball in their PE lessons.

They will also be taught about good sportsmanship and how to be a team player.



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we have a range of topics that we will be addressing during circle time and in our Jigsaw sessions:

- How to stand up for yourself in an appropriate manner
  - How to persevere when challenges occur
  - How to set a goal and work towards it
  - How to use kind words and hands
  - How to encourage others
- Why exercise, healthy foods and sleep are important

## Expressive Arts and Design

We will be using a range of art techniques to create artwork, including fruit printing, bean collages and observational painting

The children will be engaging in sensory play and exploration. They will have the opportunity to engage in role play when we transform our home corner into a garden centre and farm shop. We will be singing and dancing to lots of topic related songs.

## Communication and Language

This term we will be encouraging the children to engage in whole class, small group and paired discussion to further develop their speaking and listening skills. The children will be asked to talk about stories they have heard and give their opinion about the topics we are learning. Through our topics, the children will be learning and using a range of vocabulary related to plants, farming and animals.

## Reception Spring Term

Wednesday 7th January -  
Friday 27th March 2026

**How Does My Garden  
Grow?**

**&**

**All Creatures Great and  
Small**

### The Reception Team

**Miss Halpin** - Reception 1 Class Teacher

**Mrs Pose-Gil** - Reception 1 TA

**Miss Wolfson** - Reception 2 Class Teacher  
(Maternity cover)

**Mrs Jones** - Reception 2 TA

## Mathematics

In Maths, we will be focusing on the numbers 1-10 in relation to addition. We will be learning our ordinal numbers and we will be beginning to combine two sets of objects for addition. We will be focussing on learning our number bonds up to 10 and we will be making sure that our number formation is correct.

We will continue to explore patterns and we will be looking at length, height and capacity at an age-appropriate level. We will also be exploring the composition of 2D shapes and we will be learning about 3D shapes.

## Literacy

This term, we will be focusing on forming our letters and numbers correctly. We will also be putting further emphasis on writing on lines.

We will continue to teach phonics at a pace appropriate to your child. The children will be encouraged to use their phonics to write labels, captions and simple sentences.

We will continue to teach the children to read at their own pace.

## Understanding the World

For our topic 'How does my garden grow?', we will be learning about where food comes from and we will be growing some of our own fruit and vegetables from seeds. We will be looking at how animals and insects can impact the growth of plants and we will be thinking about how we can care for plants.

For our 'All creatures great and small' topic, we will be looking at the following:  
Under the sea  
Dinosaurs  
The life cycle of a caterpillar  
The life cycle of a duck

We will also be looking at the cultural celebrations happening during this time.



### Healthy Snack

Eating healthy food is very important to us in Reception. Please ensure your child has a snack for the afternoon. This should NOT contain meat. Please note that we do not allow any foods containing nuts or nut products at school.



## Spring Term Core Texts

Where Does my Food Come From? - Annabel Karmel

Oliver's Vegetables - Vivian French

Wildflower - Melanie Brown

Caterpillar and Bean: A Science Storybook about Growing - Martin Jenkins

The Extraordinary Gardener - Sam Broughton

Under the Sea - Madeline Tyler

Commotion in the Ocean - Giles Andrea

Little People Big Dreams: Mary Anning - Maria Isabel Sanchez Vergera

Mad about Dinosaurs - Giles Andrea

The Ugly Duckling - Mara Alperin and Sue Eastland

Make Way for Ducklings - Robert McCloskey

Egg to Chick - Life Cycles

The Crunching Munching Caterpillar - Sheridan Cain

## PE days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Please send the children into school wearing their **full school uniform**, with their PE kits/bags in their backpack.

**Bookbags with Reading Diaries (once issued) and Backpacks should be sent into school every day.**

**Caps/hats and blazers should be worn daily.**

Please make sure your child has spare clothing in their backpack at all times as explorative play can get messy!

## Dates for your diary

**Monday 16th - Friday 20th February:**  
Half-term holiday

**Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th March:**  
Parent/Teacher consultations

**Week beginning 2nd March:** Incredible Eggs arrive at school

**Friday 13th March:** Aldenham Farm Trip

**Friday 28th March:** Last day of term

The Reception children will also begin to attend the Pre-Prep assembly with Miss Callaghan on a Wednesday and the whole-school celebration assembly on Friday with Mr Gill.

## Important Vocabulary

We will be using vocabulary related to plants and growing such as **seeds, leaves, stem, roots, flower.**

We will be learning topic specific vocabulary such as **bean, sprout, chrysalis.** We will be learning about different bodies of water such as **river, lake** and **ocean** and we will learn the names of the 5 oceans: **Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, Arctic.**

We will be learning lots of new vocabulary related to celebrations. The children are also being taught the BSL signs to accompany key vocabulary.