Key Vocabulary

surname | family | brother | sister | mummy | daddy | grandmother | grandfather | cousin | aunt | uncle | features | height | complexion | unique | similar | different | compare | head | shoulders | arm | legs | knees | toes | hands | elbows | fingers | ankles | neck | hips | bottom | skeleton | bones | muscle | shin bone | thigh bone | spine | skull | arm bone | jaw | joint | ball in socket | metatarsals | tongue | lip | teeth | favourite | opinion | preference | explain | town | village | feature | landmark | environment | local | map | forward | backward | under | over | next to | in front of | behind | left | right | autumn | summer | winter | spring | seasons | deciduous | evergreen | harvest | plough | crops | hibernate | migration | habitat | den | set | burrow

Communication and Language

In reception we will be developing confidence when communicating with adults and peers, taking turns in conversations to talk about ourselves, families, schools and experiences. We will develop vocabulary through stories, discussion and first-hand experiences.

Literacy

As Reception readers & writers we will:

- Read single letter sounds m,a,s,d,t,i,n,p,g,o,c,k,u,b,f,e,l,h,sh,r,j,v,y,w,th,z,ch,qu,x,ng,nk
- Understand the 5 key concepts about print (meaning, purpose, left to right, names of different parts of the book and page sequencing)
- Have extended conversations about stories through oracy
- Recognise rhymes and syllables
- Understand lists and their structure and purpose
- Write our own name and familiar words

Understanding the World

Science

- As Reception scientists, we will develop understanding of ourselves and the natural world through first-hand experiences, observation and exploration
- explore body parts, senses, bones, muscles and movement, as well as seasonal change and features of autumn
- begin to explore animals, including habitats, hibernation and migration.

Computing

In computing, we will be:

- developing early computational thinking through practical, collaborative activities linked to Autumn
- explore patterns, logic, algorithms and decomposition.

History & Geography

As Reception historians and geographers, we will:

- develop an understanding of ourselves, our families, our school and local community
- talk about family structure and how we have changed as we have grown
- Explore our school environment and learn the names and purposes of different spaces
- Begin to develop geographical understanding by exploring the local area, identifying features and landmarks
- Understand the difference between towns and villages
- Use maps, routes and positional language to represent familiar places
- Begin to notice change over time, including seasonal change from summer to autumn and changes within the local environment

RE

To know that each of us is unique and special. To explain how we can care for each other at school and at home. To learn about the different harvest celebrations across the world.

Mathematics

As Reception mathematicians, we will:

- Introduce positional language of where things go in the classroom
- Understand key times of the day & class routines
- Assess counting principles; one to one, stable order, cardinal, abstraction and order irrelevance
- Find and match objects and compare patterns
- Explore items that are the same or different
- Recognise whether there are more/fewer/equal amount of objects
- Understand that objects can be sorted into sets and ordered based on attributes such as colour, size or shape
- Recognise, identify and subitise 1
- Recognise 1p coins, 1 on the clock, and 1 less than 1

This is Me - Reception Autumn 1 2026 - 27

This unit of work provides the opportunity to explore who we are and to understand and explore that we are now part of a new community. We will learn about the rules and routines of the classroom that allow us to feel safe and secure. We will explore our new environment both inside and out and those within it. We will develop our understanding of what is in our local environment and be able to describe it. We will be introduced to the seasons and look closely at the changes that take place in Autumn.

Declarative Knowledge:

- I know my own surname.
- I know the structure of my family
- I can describe how I look.
- I know what I like and dislike and why.
- I know where I live, whether it is a town or village and its features
- I know the routine of the classroom and where my belongings are kept
- I know the adults and their names in my setting
- I know the names of the indoor and outside spaces in my school and what they are for
- I know that there are 4 seasons and we are now in Autumn
- I know that in Autumn, leaves change colour and fall off, but some trees are evergreen
- I know that Harvest happens in autumn and it will get darker, colder and wetter
- I know that some animals hibernate, migrate and gather food

Physical Development

PE

In PE we will develop a range of ball skills including throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting and aiming.

Wildwood

We will engage in weekly sessions to hone gross motor skills in a natural environment

Fine Motor

We will be strengthening hand muscles and developing pencil control.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art

As Reception artists we will develop the ability to represent ourselves, experiences and observations through art, creative materials, roleplay and small world. We will explore self-portraits, autumn colours and natural materials, create representations of familiar environments and recreate/reinvent stories through imaginative play.

Music

Exploring Rhythm and Pulse. Learning what each term means and exploring them through songs and games.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

MyHappyMind

Our first MyHappyMind unit this year is 'Meet Your Brain'. We will be working on self regulation and exploring strategies that support positive relationships and emotional wellbeing.

PSHE

All About Me- Learning about our similarities and differences and celebrating them. To explore the different relationships we have and how we can help the people around us. To understand that we all have different feelings and what we can do to help us recognise them in ourselves and others.

Core texts:

Incredible you – *Rhys Brisenden* | Anyone can be my friend – *Jana Curll* | Our class is a family – *Shannon Olsen* | A new house for Mouse – *Peter Horace* | The colour monster goes to school – *Anna Lienas* | Colour of us- *Karen Katz* | Goldilocks and the three bears | Tree – *Britta Teckentrip* | Autumn is here – *Heidi Pross Gray* | Percy the Park keeper After the Storm - *Nick Butterworth* | Little Red Hen | The enormous turnip