

Spring: Information for Reception

Class Teacher: Mrs Parkinson (Mon-Wed), Mrs Manderville (Thurs-Fri)

Date: Spring Term 2025 - 2026 (Jan - Mar)

Topic: Cold Places & Transport

Welcome back to Year Reception!

Happy new year!

Here is an outline of what we will be learning in Reception. Our topic this term is 'Cold Places', and we will be asking the question, 'Why don't polar bears eat penguins?' After half term we will be exploring 'Transport' and considering how we travel around and how transport has changed.

The children's learning will also be enhanced as we follow their interests.

Subject:	Class work:	How you can help:
English Reading	<p>In phonics the children will continue to learn more of the individual letter names and the sounds from phase 2 and 3 and will build on their skills to read and spell simple words and phrases using these letters.</p> <p>They will practise reading and writing their name and tricky words.</p>	<p>Share story and rhyming books.</p> <p>Share information books and talk about facts.</p> <p>Sing songs and play instruments.</p> <p>Play games which include letter sounds and words.</p> <p>Practice the phonic sounds, tricky words and reading books we send home. This will really help to build confidence and fluency.</p>
English Writing	<p>We continue to focus on handwriting, forming shapes and letters correctly. There is a real emphasis on starting letters in the correct place and writing letters in the correct direction and orientation.</p> <p>We will encourage the children to write for a purpose: Drawing, writing individual letters; writing their name; beginning to write simple three-letter words.</p>	<p>Model careful drawing, colouring and writing. Explore activities which build wrist and finger strength such as playdough, threading and using one handed tools.</p> <p>Practice holding the pen/ pencil correctly & forming letters correctly, starting in the correct place. Please ask for guidance around this if you are unsure.</p> <p>Continue name writing (capital for the first letter and then lower-case letters for the rest of the name). Ensure that letters are formed accurately.</p>
Mathematics	<p>The children will practise counting accurately, recognising numbers to 10 and representing numbers to 10 in different ways. They will do this in a wide range of contexts as they play, sing and carry out focus tasks.</p> <p>They will also explore mass and capacity, length, height, time and 3D shapes.</p>	<p>Read counting books and sing counting songs.</p> <p>Practise counting objects or asking for amounts- "Can you count out 10 blueberries?" Encourage the children to touch or move objects as they count.</p> <p>Play board games and dice games which encourage the children to subitise amounts (e.g. say the number of spots on the dice without counting), or count on.</p> <p>Recognise, order and count out objects to at least 10. Count aloud beyond 10 noticing number patterns.</p>
Communication and Language	<p>The children will explore new words & use new vocabulary in different contexts. They will begin to retell a story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text. We will encourage them to use their words to ask for what they need, resolve problems and to engage positively with their peers through taking turns and</p>	<p>Encourage your child to speak in full sentences. Enjoy sharing books, playing games and talking about what you can do and see.</p> <p>Use words such as first, next, after that to retell events and stories.</p>

	sharing resources.	
Physical Development	<p>The children will access a wide range of provision, inside and out. We will continue to develop movement skills they have already acquired: rolling, crawling, walking, jumping, running, hopping, skipping, climbing, balancing.</p> <p>We will develop their pencil and scissors skills and encourage them to dress independently and fasten buttons and zips.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to dress and undress independently including fastening buttons and zips. Use cutlery, scissors, pens and pencils with increasing independence.</p> <p>Encourage your child to be creative using pens and simple tools such as scissors, glue, tape to create crafts and models.</p>
Understanding the World	<p>We will begin to develop an understanding of the wider world by looking at maps and globes and locating the Poles.</p> <p>We will talk about similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.</p> <p>While playing outside, we will observe and talk about the changing seasons and explore the world with our senses. We will notice changing states such as water, ice and snow.</p> <p>We will investigate floating and sinking, and explore different modes of transport, looking at examples from the past.</p>	<p>Encourage the children to use geographical words such as map, atlas, globe, North Pole, South Pole, Arctic, Antarctic.</p> <p>Talk about places you visit and how it is the same or different to Otley.</p> <p>Enjoy exploring the changing seasons as you walk to school or have days out. Notice signs of winter and spring.</p> <p>Name different types of transport. Read books or visit museums to glimpse into the past.</p> <p>Explore which objects float and sink at bath time.</p>
Expressive Art and Design	The children will have opportunities to investigate what happens when we mix different coloured paints and add black and white. They will design a boat using a range of recycled materials and then test it.	Talk to children about any creations they bring home or observe.
PHSE	The children will cover the topics: Hopes and Dreams and Healthy Me.	Talk about what makes a good learner and how they can challenge themselves. Talk about how making mistakes helps us to learn. Make mistakes and let your child correct you!
RE	The children will cover the topic: What makes a good helper? What can we see in our wonderful world?	Chat about who lives in your house and what jobs they do. Encourage your child to help around the house with a special job!
Specific dates and home learning	<p>P.E. Dates (please make sure that your child comes to school in tracksuit bottoms and shoes they can run in on these days): PE will be on Wednesday mornings. This will re-start on Wednesday 7th January.</p> <p>Reading: Please read with your child daily for 5-10 minutes.</p> <p>Spelling: Learn letters sounds for phonics, 5 minutes daily practice. Please note in the reading diary each time you read or work on phonic sounds or tricky words.</p>	

Maths: We will send home some key facts later in the year.

Please can you ensure your child's name is written in/on anything they bring into school (clothing, water bottles, wellies, lunchboxes etc)

The Year Ahead

Parents evening - Tuesday 24th & Thursday 26th March

Thanks,

Mrs Parkinson & Mrs Manderville