Communication and Language

This half term we will be developing the children's listening skills. To do this, we will be having regular circle times, playing action games and singing songs and rhymes. This will help the children develop their confidence when working as part of a larger group. We will also be working on using language as a way of communicating effectively with others. The children will be encouraged to talk about themselves, their families and the books we have read.

Physical Development

We will be focusing on developing children's fine and gross motor skills. There will be a variety of experiences to support this such as, ball and hoop games, the climbing equipment, and using tools in the creative areas, working in the mud kitchen and threading. We will also begin our weekly PE lessons. We will start by playing some listening games as a group and learn how to get changed into our PE kits independently. This half term we would like children to practise self-care skills such as getting dressed by themselves and taking care of their own belongings.

PSED and British values

We will be spending lots of time getting to know each other at the beginning of the term so that the children feel safe and confident at school. In addition, we will be focussing on learning how to use the classroom resources carefully and respectfully. This will include opportunities for sharing, co-operation and tidying away resources when we have finished using them. To support children's confidence and well-being we will have weekly mindfulness sessions as well as a weekly circle time with our new class friend Jigsaw Jenie.

Mathematics

We will begin the term by investigating and describing patterns, this will support the children to identify patterns within the number system. We will also be sorting a range of different items by colour, size and shape. We will be introducing number including recognition, composition and subitising. We will be looking at and identifying numbers in our environment.

Expressive Arts and Design

We are exploring painting skills this half term. Specifically, we will be looking at colour mixing, light and dark shades and the different resources we can use. We will be teaching the children about self-portraits as well as encouraging them to create original pieces of art using a range of mediums including natural materials.

Home - School learning

Families play such an essential part in their child's development. You will be able to access observations of your child on tapestry, as well as watching our story of the week videos. We ask families to build on our learning in reception by reading their child's reading book or other books from home, daily. This will support your child's reading fluency, comprehension and confidence.

Reception Autumn 1 2025-2026



Topic: Marvellous Me!

Role play themes

This half term the role play area is set up as a house. This will enable the children to develop their prior knowledge of a home environment and acting this out with friends. The children will have the opportunity to create their own role play using simple resources that engage and develop their imaginations.

Role play opportunities extend to the outdoor learning environment.

Understanding the World

We will be thinking about ourselves and our families this half term by talking about special times and events in our own lives. We will also talk about what makes us special, how we are all unique and how our bodies work. We will be exploring our new software 'Purple Mash' where the children will be able to explore the technology interactively.

Literacy

Reading and Phonics - Each week in Reception we will be focusing on 'Our story of the week.' We will read this book every day and encourage the children to retell, act out and talk about the story. In the first half term we will be using the Little Wandle Phonics scheme to introduce the phase 2 sounds. We will begin to segment and blend words using our new knowledge. Check our weekly 'story of the week' videos on Tapestry to see your teacher reading the story we will be learning about in the following week. This will help you familiarise yourself with the plot, characters, events and actions that we will be learning about.

Writing – There are lots of opportunities for the children to incorporate writing into their childinitiated learning and practise their new phonics knowledge. They are encouraged to mark make and add labels to drawings and models. We will be focusing on name writing and letter formation.