



Reception Team Letter

Spring 2026 –Are we nearly there yet? and Growing and Changing

Dear Parents,



Last term whizzed by, and we appreciated all of your support and interactions throughout the weeks.

Our first topic of the term is *Are we nearly there yet?* During this unit, the children will explore different types of transport, identify similarities and differences between them, and compare old and new forms of transport. They will also learn how to use maps.

In the second term, we will move on to our next topic, *Growing and changing*. During this topic, we will learn about how to look after plants, different life cycles, and how to keep healthy.

The children always love taking part in outdoor activities, so please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat. PE kits can remain in school every day. Please check that names are still clearly visible on all belongings. We will continue to send your child home with a reading-for-pleasure book on a Tuesday and a Friday. They may also begin to bring home a Phonics book. All books should be brought into school daily. Remember — five signed reads at home earn your child a star.

The school's policy requires children to have only water in their bottles. If they are currently drinking juice, please try to dilute it gradually to lessen the concentration over time, or send in colourless flavoured water.

Helping the children to become independent is hugely important for their development. Please support them by giving them plenty of opportunities to dress themselves, zip or button their coats, and put on and fasten their own shoes. If your child struggles with laces, Velcro is a great alternative until they master this skill.

As always, please come and speak to us if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you again this term.

See the final page for diary dates.

Foundation Stage Team

Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers

What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

During the Spring term, pupils will be learning the following:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The first half term we will be focusing on 'Dreams and Goals'. Pupils will explore the importance of staying motivated and keep persevering when doing something challenging. The importance of having a positive attitude and working well with a partner or in a group and finally working hard to achieve their own dreams and goals.

The second half term we will be focusing on 'Healthy Me'. Pupils will be looking at making healthy choices by eating a balanced diet and being physically active. They will also look at keeping themselves and others safe and know how to keep calm and deal with difficult situations.

Communication and Language

Pupils will work with their talk partners, taking turns in conversation and rehearsing what they would like to say. We will reinforce speaking in full sentences. Pupils will role-play in the home corner and with a range of resources. They will listen to others in their play, developing their understanding of new vocabulary and stories linked to the topic, before beginning to use new vocabulary in their play. Adults will support and extend pupils' language development.

Physical Development

Pupils will explore balance. They will stretch, reach and extend in a variety of ways and positions. They will learn to control their bodies to perform different movements and travel with increasing control and coordination.

Pupils will also develop their fine motor skills. They will try to begin to write letters on a line and hold scissors effectively to cut along a straight line.

Literacy

Pupils will continue to do daily phonics using the Read Write Inc. approach. During these sessions we will focus segmenting, blending and letter formation. The children will be writing words linked to the sounds they are learning and writing simple sentences. Through child-initiated activities, they will have the opportunity to put this into practice through writing lists, stories and messages.

Mathematics

In Maths, pupils will be introduced to the number 0. They will compare numbers to 10 and will look at different ways of making numbers to 10 and begin to look at number bonds to 10. Pupils will continue their work in comparing mass and capacity. They will discover how to measure length, height and will develop their understanding about time. They will also learn about 3d shapes and will explore pattern.

Understanding of the World

Pupils will be exploring how different materials can affect how fast or slow objects move and will be investigating whether objects sink or float. They will be comparing different types of transport and how it has changed overtime. Pupils will also use simple maps to find places.

The second half term, pupils will be focusing on how to keep healthy and look after yourself. They will be planting seeds and learning how to look after them too. Pupils will also be looking at life cycles and ordering pictures to represent the life cycle of a butterfly.

Expressive Arts and Design

Through observational drawing, pupils will begin to draw with detail and some accuracy. They will use simple joins when using different materials to create 3D work, e.g. Sellotape, masking tape, glue. Pupils will mix colours using different paints and add paint onto an item to make a print. They will also print repeating patterns and talk about the repeated pattern they have created.

Pupils will also be singing along to a backing track and finding the pulse. They will then add a simple instrumental part when performing any song.

Key Dates this term:

Monday 5th January	Pupils return
Wednesday 28th January	Disco
Tuesday 3rd February	Come in and read with your child 2.40pm
Wednesday 11th February	Open morning/afternoon
Friday 13th February	Last day of term
Monday 16th – Friday 20th February	Half term
Monday 23rd February	Pupils return
Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th Feb	Parent teacher Meetings
Tuesday 3rd March	Come in and read with your child 2.40pm
Friday 27th March	Last day of term Pupils finish at 2pm
Tuesday 14th April	Pupils return