



Foundation Stage Team Letter Spring 2026

Dear Parents,

During this term the children will be focusing on an array of books through our Talk through stories unit. They will have the opportunity to discuss the main characters and events of the story, consider thoughts and feelings of characters and begin to learn and define new vocabulary.

Please remember to look at your child's Tapestry account and class web page to keep up to date with the learning they are completing in school. Please feel free to comment on Tapestry observations as well as adding your own as this encourages the children to be enthusiastic about sharing their work.

We usually do PE on **Friday**. Please send your child dressed in their sports clothes and suitable footwear. We will send your child home with homework on a **Friday** and a new book on a **Friday**. Please ensure both are bought back to school on **Friday**.

Helping the children to become independent is hugely important for their development. Please help your child by giving them lots of opportunities to dress themselves, zip/button up 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.

Finally, please help us by naming all your child's belongings.

We look forward to working with you.

Nursery Team

Mrs Davies ldavies@manor.reading.sch.uk

Key Dates this term:

Monday 5 th January	Pupils return
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11 th February	Open Morning & Afternoon
Friday 13 th February	Last day of term
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February	Half term
Monday 23 rd February	Pupils return
Tuesday 24 th – Thursday 26 th February	Parent teacher Meetings
Thursday 5 th March	Trip to Waterstones for World Book Day
Monday 23 rd March	Trip to Beale Park
Friday 27 th March	Comic Relief
Monday 13 th April	INSET Day
Tuesday 14 th April	Pupils return

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

This term we will be focusing on 'Dreams and Goals' for the first term and 'Healthy Me' in the second term. Pupils will begin to understand the different challenges that they may face in life and how they can achieve them and set their own goals. During the 'Healthy Me' topic the children will begin to learn about the different things they need to achieve a healthy lifestyle including diet, fitness, sleep and hygiene.

Communication and Language

Pupils will work on taking turns in conversation and rehearsing what they would like to say. Pupils will role-play in the home corner and in the Phyzzpod, which will be a jungle for the first half term and under the sea for the second half term. 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 through a variety of interventions and group work.

Physical Development

Pupils will focus on Manipulation and Coordination during the first half term. They will explore ways to send and receive objects using different parts of the body, controlling objects and coordinating body parts in a variety of ways. During the second half term they will focus on Gymnastics this term where they will explore movement. They will move in a variety of different ways before beginning to explore jumping and landing and a range of gymnastics equipment. Pupils will develop their fine motor skills, especially in writing where they will focus on using a tripod grip, good pressure and correct formation of letters.

We will also discuss healthy living and will find ways to improve our health and fitness.

Literacy

Pupils will do daily phonics using the Read Write Inc. approach. During these sessions we will focus on linking sounds to letters, finding the initial sounds in words and letter formation. Through child-initiated activities, they will begin to explore different genres of writing such as labels, lists and captions.

Mathematics

In Maths, pupils will learn to match objects that are the same. They will sort objects into sets in different ways based on different attributes. They will order objects based on size and use comparative language and will copy, continue and create their own simple patterns. They will compare and represent numbers 1,2 and 3 in different ways and will count, subitise and compare as they explore one more and one less. They will learn about 2D shapes and identify their properties. They will begin to use positional language and will learn to use vocabulary related to time.

Understanding of the World

Pupils will learn about the different types of animals and where they come from. They will discuss a variety of different habitats and where they are likely to find them in the world. The children will begin to explore day and night and conduct their own investigations into plant life cycles. The children will also continue to explore traditional tales and how they have changed over time. The children will also have the opportunity to learn about birds and spring flowers during their Muddy Monday adventures, as well as continuing their exploration of seasons.

Expressive Arts and Design

Pupils will use and explore a variety of materials and techniques to create their own animal and habitat paintings and sculptures. The children will also begin to look at making sculptures of their homes and other buildings using different media. In Music, the children will have the opportunity to explore different beats and replicate them as well as learning and consolidating their Nursery rhyme knowledge.