

# Reception Learning Journey

## Reading and Phonics

This term we will be introducing our new topic 'Marvellous Me.' Some of the books we will be exploring for this theme will include:

The Colour Monster (Anna Llenas) – a beautiful story about a confused monster who needs help sorting his feelings into different jars, to better understand his feelings.

Peace at Last (Jill Murphy) – Mr Bear can't sleep. Everything is too noisy in his house. Where will he try to get some sleep? Will he ever find peace at last?

Funny Bones (Janet and Allan Ahlberg) – Big Skeleton, Little Skeleton and Dog Skeleton have fun one night exploring the dark, dark town. What fun they have!

Each Peach Pear Plum (Janet and Alan Ahlberg) – With its strong rhythm and rhyme, this book introduces characters from well-known nursery stories, such as the Three Bears, Mother Hubbard and Tom Thumb, and encourages children to participate and to find the characters hidden in the pictures.

I'm Almost Always Kind (Anna Milbourne) – Being kind is super important but isn't always easy. This book explores how to be kind and what it really means. It turns out that to be truly kind, you must look at things from other people's point of view.

Julian is a Mermaid (Jessica Love) – Whilst on the train home, Julian notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Julian tries to make his own fabulous mermaid costume, but what will his Nana think about it?

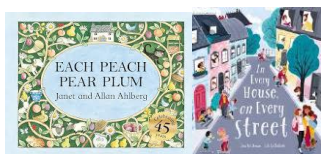
Why Do I Have to Keep Clean? (Kay Barnholm) - Find out why being squeaky clean is good for everyone. This book explores how we take care of our own hygiene and why being clean is better than being unclean!

In Every House, On Every Street (JessHitchman) – A celebration of homes of different kinds and all the families that make them.

We will be placing a key focus on the children joining in with repeated refrains and showing a good understanding of the key events in the story and remembering key vocabulary.

In phonics, the children will begin to learn their set 1 single sounds and develop a phonological awareness of how words are made. They will begin to recognise words with the same sound and their printed name amongst others.

**Read Write Inc.**  
Phonics



## Writing

The focus will be on children being able to write their own name independently, by copying their name initially, and then writing independently later.

To support with pencil control and pencil grip, we will concentrate on building up muscle memory in our hands and wrists through fine motor activities and by practicing rotating our arms and wrists independently. All of this will help us to choose a dominant hand to hold a pencil in comfortably, using the tripod grip, and apply firm pressure to the page.

All children will be encouraged to be brave writers through a range of mark making activities, within the environment and within specific, dedicated learning time. They will write letters that represent initial sounds in words, forming some letters accurately.

**Communication and Language**

We will be focusing on building the communication and listening skills of the children during the first term. By the end of the half term, children should be able to listen carefully in a range of situations (carpet time, outside play and learn, group activities and discussions). They should take turns to speak in conversations.

Learning new vocabulary will be a priority for children, we will do this through Word Aware and Concept Cat, so that links can be made with visual and concrete resources, to truly master and embed new words, phrases and concepts. This will be in all subject areas and where possible linked.

We will be learning to express our wants and needs within the classroom, in an appropriate manner, building respectful relationships with adults in the school. We will accept the needs of others and understand that my wishes will not always be met and tolerate delay.

**Maths**



During this first half term in Reception, learners will be exposed to Early Mathematical Experiences, Pattern and Early Number. They will be taught to:

- Classifying objects based on one attribute
- Matching equal and unequal sets
- Comparing objects and sets
- Ordering objects and sets
- Recognise, describe, copy and extend colour and size patterns
- Count and represent the numbers 1 to 3
- Estimate and check by counting

**Our Theme**



As part of our theme of “Marvellous Me”, there will be mirrors and feelings boards for children to explore and consider how to express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.

We will be learning about our bodies and the ways we can be healthy and happy through exercise and self-care. As part of this we will be learning about the importance of good dental care, handwashing, toileting, healthy foods, road safety and staying safe in the classroom.

**Expressive Art and Design**

As part of our learning around The Colour Monster, we will be looking at different colours and textures, and explore what happens when we mix different colours. Children will use various materials and construction elements to create self-portraits and buildings, learning to manipulate and join different materials. Our role play areas, will initially focus on familiar settings such as the home. We will be learning about our locality and community and children will be learning to draw simple maps and draw information from it about where they live.

**Physical Development**

We will be learning to dress and undress independently and look after our belongings. We will be looking at simple exercise activities to keep us healthy.

**PSHE**



Children will be talking about themselves, their family and celebrations and cultures. They will be able to talk about where they live, describe their homes, discuss things that are important to them.

**Understanding of the World**

As part of our theme, learners will explore where we live and describe our homes, the name of our new school and the city it is in. There will be a focus on how we fit into the wider community and world, the name of our country and where we are located within it. In RE, we will talk about the traditions and culture of the families in our class and celebrate our differences.

**Important dates**