



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## Reception Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

**Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term: January 2026**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope the children have had an enjoyable Christmas break. Thank you for all of your kind gifts and cards. We are so pleased with how the children have settled into Reception during their first term and are looking forward to the half term ahead. Much of our learning this half term will centre upon our key texts which will be 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', 'Whatever Next' and "'Don't Wake the Bear, Hare!'".

The table below gives a brief outline of the learning in different subject areas.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
Communication Language and Literacy	<p>The children will have the opportunity to develop this area through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retelling stories with props</li> <li>• Conducting an investigation</li> <li>• Following instructions</li> <li>• Listening to a range of stories from one topic</li> <li>• Exploring different objects</li> </ul>
Phonics	<p>The children will be recapping the Phase 2 sounds and are beginning to learn the Phase 3 sounds. This will include reading and spelling words containing the following phonemes:</p> <p>Phase 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Set 6</b> – j v w x</li> <li>• <b>Set 7</b> – y z zz qu ch</li> <li>• <b>Set 8</b> – sh th ng nk</li> <li>• <b>Set 9</b> – ai ee igh oa</li> </ul> <p>The children will also be learning to read and spell the following harder to read and spell words: he, she, buses, we, me, be, push, was, her, my, you</p>
Handwriting	<p>Identifying, distinguishing and correctly forming the following letter sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• i, l and t</li> <li>• u, w and e</li> <li>• c and o</li> <li>• a and d</li> </ul>
Physical Development	<p>Weekly children will take part in two PE lessons. In class this area will be developed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manipulating a range of different tools such as paint brushes, scissors and pencils</li> <li>• Learning to travel in different ways including jumping, crawling, hopping and skipping</li> <li>• Engaging with hygiene routines to keep ourselves safe</li> <li>• Putting on their coat and fastening it independently</li> </ul>

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<p>We will be focusing on 'Dreams and Goals', where the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss how to persevere to achieve a target</li> <li>• Know how not to give up</li> <li>• To be able to set achievable goals</li> <li>• Know how to encourage others to achieve their goals</li> <li>• Consider the feelings experienced when a goal is achieved</li> </ul>
Literacy	<p>The children will be using the key texts in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create signs and posters</li> <li>• Mark make and trace in different materials</li> <li>• Create a story map</li> <li>• Make a card</li> <li>• List items</li> <li>• Complete a post card</li> <li>• Create invitations</li> </ul>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composing and comparing numbers from 0 to 5</li> <li>• Comparing mass</li> <li>• Measuring</li> <li>• Composing and matching numbers 6, 7 and 8</li> <li>• One more and less</li> <li>• Comparing groups</li> <li>• Adding more</li> <li>• Comparing height and length</li> <li>• Days of the week</li> </ul>
Understanding of the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing old and new teddy bears</li> <li>• Following instructions to make porridge</li> <li>• Learning about space and planets</li> <li>• Focus on different astronauts and their accomplishments</li> <li>• Understanding hibernation</li> <li>• Learning about Chinese new year and the traditions associated with this</li> </ul>
Expressive Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singing a variety of songs</li> <li>• Role playing different stories</li> <li>• Exploring the effect of colour on a black background</li> <li>• Rocket making using scissors</li> <li>• Creating snow scenes</li> <li>• Observing and creating dances</li> </ul>
RE	<p>We will also be focusing on the topic 'How can we help others when they need it?', where the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflect on how we can help others at home and in school</li> <li>• Consider how and why people may ask for help</li> <li>• Understand how Jesus helped others through stories in the bible</li> <li>• Consider how people ask for help in the Church community</li> </ul>

## **Reading**

The children will continue to receive one book a week to be reading at home. We continue to ask that these reading books are sent into school every day.

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning is to ensure that they engage with 10- 15 minutes reading every day. This can consist of hearing them read their school reading book or sharing books that you have at home.

## **PE**

Reception coached PE session takes place on a **Tuesday**. The class will also have PE on a **Wednesday**. On these days, children I need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms/PE shorts and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

### **Reminders about what children need in school**

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle
- Folder containing reading book (provided by school)
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your support.

***Miss Christou and the Reception Team***