w/b 28th September 2026

Reception News

We are now halfway through the first half term in Reception and the children are doing brilliantly. They have all learned our routines and are accessing resources independently. Miss Gregory, our deputy headteacher, took the children into lunch this week and was very impressed with how independent they all were with getting their lunches and tidying up after themselves.
This week we are reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. We will be using all of our senses to explore different textures, smells and tastes this week. We have also started phase 2 phonics and will be sending home a letter at the end of this week with details about how to use our Bug Club phonics website.

This week we are learning:

Phonics – we are learning s, a, t & p and will be practicing reading and writing simple words.
Literacy – we are writing in sand, sorting pictures by initial sounds and writing words using the sounds that we are learning this week such as 'as' and 'tap'. We are also practicing how to write our names.
Maths – we are learning about the number 2. We are looking at semi circles which have two sides – one straight side and one curved side that joins both ends of the straight side. We are also learning about pairs and will be counting in 2s and adding 2 to sets of objects.
Jigsaw – this week we are talking about how we're feeling about starting school. We're looking at what we like doing at school and what we might find more difficult.
Music – this week we are singing 'If You're Happy and You Know It'.
Other – we are reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', making maps of the journey, talking about our favourite things to do at school, thinking about which animals live in our school grounds and will be using all of our senses to explore our environment.

Reminders

- Bug Club – we will be sending letters home on Friday with details about Bug Club and usernames and passwords for all of the children. Please let us know if you have any problems logging on or if you don't receive your letter. Each week we will allocate games to practice the sounds that we have learned that week. Once children recognise the first eight sounds, we will also allocate reading books. Children will also bring a reading book home on Thursdays which they are able to keep to read and re-read until the following Tuesday.
- Tapestry – we have noticed that a few parents haven't logged in yet. Please check your emails for a message from Tapestry. There are lots of lovely photos of your children for you to look at. If anyone has a problem logging in, please email through the office.
- Book bags – please check these daily. If children go to tea-time clubs, yellow letters (detailing head or face injuries) are put in book bags. We also put other correspondence in book bags on occasions, i.e. on school photo days and Bug Club letters.
- Danglies on book bags – could we please ask that you limit the number and size of keychains etc. on children's book bags. These go in drawers, and the children struggle to fit them in when they have large keychains attached. Children should have no more than 2 small keychains on book bags.

- Jewellery – we have noticed that some children are still coming to school wearing jewellery. This is not permitted in Reception, due to the amount of physical activity that we do. If children cannot remove earrings, they must be covered with tape every day. Jewellery and watches are not allowed in our school uniform policy.
- Coats – please send a coat to school every day. The mornings are quite chilly now and we do go outside every single day. Please make sure that everything is named, including shoes.
- Toileting – we know it's always a rush to get out of the door in the mornings, but it would be really helpful to us if the children could go to the toilet before they come to school. Our first lesson of the day is phonics, and we are having lots of children asking to go to the toilet during the lesson. We never stop children from going to the toilet if they really need to, but we do also try to avoid them missing important lessons.