

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer 1 term in Reception!

We are looking forward to a half term filled with outdoor learning, creativity, and exciting new topics.

Literacy

Our main text this term is *Handa's Surprise* by Eileen Browne.

Children will explore stories set in different cultures, learn new vocabulary linked to fruits and animals, and retell the story using sequencing and role-play activities.

They will also write simple sentences inspired by the text.



Communication and Language

We will continue daily **Sounds Write** phonics sessions.

This half term sees us learning the following new sounds: sh, ch, th, ck, ng, wh, qu, ve, tch

Children will practise reading and writing words using a growing range of sound patterns, including:

- **VCC** (e.g. *egg, ink, ash, itch*)
- **CVCC** (e.g. *hand, milk, back, fish*)
- **CCVC** (e.g. *frog, stop, that, shop*)
- **CCVCC** (e.g. *plant, trust, whisk, chunk*)
- **CCCVC** (e.g. *string, splash, scrap, shrug*)

This supports confident blending and segmenting as they prepare for Year 1.

Mathematics

This term our focus areas are:

- 3D Shapes - naming and exploring 3D shapes, including cubes, cylinders, cones and spheres.
- To 20 and Beyond – counting, recognising, and representing numbers beyond 10
- How Many Now? – exploring number patterns and relationships

Children will build fluency through practical activities, games, and outdoor exploration.

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Understanding the World

Children will be learning about Kings and Queens by exploring the British monarchy, including King Charles III, and discovering important places such as Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. They will also learn about the flags of the United Kingdom, countries around the world associated with the British monarchy, and the flags of countries they have personal connections to. This topic helps develop their understanding of history, geography, and cultural identity.

We will also learn about the following cultural celebrations:



- Vaisakhi
- St George's Day
- Buddha Day



Expressive Arts and Design

Children will explore the artist Kandinsky, experimenting with shape, pattern, and colour. They will also take part in craft activities linked to our Kings and Queens topic, including designing shields and crowns.

How You Can Help at Home

- Encourage your child to talk about their ideas and retell events in detail.
- Provide daily opportunities for active play to build strength and coordination.
- Support your child in managing their feelings and solving small problems independently.
- Read together every day and discuss what has happened in the story.
- Practise counting and simple number problems using real objects (e.g., snacks, toys).
- Explore nature and talk about changes they observe in the environment.
- Offer materials for creating and imaginative play to encourage original ideas.

We are excited for a fantastic Summer 1 term filled with learning, creativity, and fun! Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Stratton

EYFS Teacher, Phonics Lead, RSHE Lead, Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead

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