



Reception Newsletter



Autumn 1—2023/2024

Notices and Reminders

Oak Class have made an excellent starts to life at The Ferns this term.

A special well done to our youngest learners!



Key dates

Week Beginning 16th October- Parents Evening.
Days to be confirmed
Friday 20th October- Last day of half term- Normal finish
Monday 30th October- Back to school
Monday 13th November- Odd Socks day and start of Anti Bullying Week
Friday 15th December- Last day of term 1.30 finish
Monday 2nd January- Back to School
Monday 15th January- INSET Day
Monday 29th- Wednesday 31st January- Year 6 Residential to Runways End
Tuesday 6th February- Safer Internet Day
Friday 9th February- Last day of half term- Normal Finish
Monday 19th February- Back to school
Wednesday 27th February- End of term 1.30pm finish
Thursday 28th February- INSET day
Monday 15th April- Back to School
Monday 13th May- Friday 17th May- Year 6 SATS
Friday 24th May- End of half term- normal finish
Monday 3rd June- Back to school
Tuesday 23rd July- End of term- 1.30pm finish

Communication and Language

Our Communication and Language focus is all around settling into school and how we can use our words to explain our feelings and make friends.

We are also working on our listening skills by playing lots of games inside and outside and encouraging us to follow simple instructions.



Physical Development

We will focus on gross and fine motor skills to help the children develop their dexterity, strength and coordination. We will practice pre-writing skills, including patterns, holding a pencil and making marks – on a small and large scale.

In P.E. our focus is finding a space and freezing. We are also learning to change direction when we come to an obstacle.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term is all about settling into the school environment with a focus on independence and the classroom rules.

The theme is 'Being Me in My World' which covers how it feels to belong and be part of a group along with a focus on their feelings and emotions.



Literacy

Phonics – We use 'Essential Letters and Sounds' (ELS) to develop our children's early reading and writing skills. The children learn 4 sounds each week, we are currently working within Phase 2. They are also learning 'Harder to Read and Spell Words' (HRWs) which cannot be sounded out.



Talk for Writing – To enhance and embed a love of stories we use 'Talk for Writing'. This involves exploring, learning and asking questions about a story. We will be using Elmer and Pumpkin Soup as our key texts.

Mathematics



- 1.) Match, Sort and Compare: the children will find and group objects which match and investigate different ways of grouping them.
- 2.) Measure and Pattern: We will compare the size, mass and capacity of objects to say which is greater or smaller. The children will notice patterns that repeat and continue a pattern with objects, their bodies or phrases.
- 3.) It's Me, 1,2,3: We will explore numbers 1-3, recognising sets and dots of these numbers and different ways of making 1,2 and 3.
- 4.) Recognising circles and triangles.



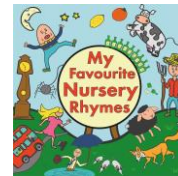
Understanding the World

The children will be thinking about how they have changed as they have grown, talking about what they can do now compared to what they could do in the past. They will be thinking about their families and how old they are compared to other family members.

The children will be observing the changes that take place in Autumn. They will have the opportunity to go outside and look for signs of Autumn. They will think about how the change in weather affects animals and learning about animals that hibernate.

Expressive Arts and Design

In music the children will be listening to various pieces of music and talking about why they like or dislike them.



They will sing and perform familiar nursery rhymes identifying the pulse and add their own sounds using their body or instruments.

Homework

In Reception, we ask that the children read their two ELS books, which have been sent home, and practise their phonics sounds, which can be found on Seesaw!



Suggested books for reading

Please ensure your child reads their ELS phonics books as frequently as possible.

