



Autumn 2 Term – Reception Curriculum Overview

This term in Reception, we are learning about:

English

Next half term in Literacy, Reception children will explore a mix of fiction and non-fiction books, including *Rosie Revere Engineer*, *Lost and Found*, *The Sibling Getaway*, *Wishes*, *Snowman*, and *Jolly Postman*. They will identify and anticipate key events in familiar stories, engage in repeated refrains, and use role play with recently introduced vocabulary to retell stories. Children will also develop early phonics skills, including recognizing initial sounds, reading simple CVC/CCVC words, and practicing letter formation in line with the ELS phonics scheme. These activities will support their reading, writing, and speaking skills in a fun, interactive way.

Mathematics

In Maths, Reception children will explore numbers 1–5 through counting, matching, and practical activities. They will investigate shapes, including circles, triangles, and shapes with four sides, as well as positional and spatial concepts. These activities will strengthen their understanding of numbers, shapes, and early geometry in engaging ways.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This half-term, children will build their teamwork and cooperation skills by taking turns and supporting their friends. They will explore how to explain their feelings and recognise how others feel when winning or losing. Children will also focus on trying their best, practising skills, and celebrating learning and progress, fostering resilience and self-confidence. Additionally, they will be able to be sensitive towards others and celebrate what makes each person unique, recognise that we can have things in common with others, and use speaking and listening skills to learn about the lives of their peers. They will learn about diversity as a British Value as well as some of the protected characteristics, and know the importance of showing care and kindness towards others. Furthermore, they will recognise that we are all unique and talk about their own families, homes, customs and traditions, being sensitive to themselves and others.

Communication & Language

This half-term, Reception children will strengthen their language skills by joining in with repeated refrains and familiar stories, and following directions in games while recognising left and right. They will demonstrate understanding of more complex prepositions such as 'under', 'on top', 'next to', and 'beside'. Children will use recently introduced vocabulary and phrases from stories in their conversations and ask questions using *what*, *where*, *when*, and *why* to find out more about topics, including learning about the past.

Physical Development

Our unit for this half-term focuses on physical development through weekly PE lessons with our specialist PE teacher. Children will begin to play games and develop coordination and spatial awareness skills. They will also learn to work with a partner or as part of a team. In addition, children will explore fine and gross motor activities, such as making their own stick men, leaf paintings, and star props for the Nativity. They will also discuss the effects of physical activity on their bodies and understand the importance of exercise.

Expressive Arts & Design

In Expressive Arts and Design this term, children will explore the four seasons through art, using colours and materials to represent spring, summer, autumn, and winter. They will learn about the artist Pissarro and how he painted outdoor scenes showing seasonal changes. Children will practice using oil pastels, paint, collage, and wax resist techniques to create trees, leaves, and snowflakes. They will develop their

skills in choosing colours, working carefully, and explaining their artwork. This learning helps children observe the world around them and express their ideas creatively through art.

Understanding the World

This half-term, our topic focuses on Transport, Exploration, Forces, and Winter. Children will learn about how people and vehicles travel, both locally and around the world, and how the seasons affect us and animals. They will explore transport from the past and look at comparing its similarities and differences to modern transport. They will learn about famous explorers and look at how other people from different cultures travel and the modes of transportation they use. They will investigate and explore push, pull and twist forces and make observations about the changes of seasons from autumn into winter, looking at the natural environment around themselves in school. Their learning will encourage children to explore the world around them, understand how people travel, and notice seasonal changes in nature and the environment.

Things you can do in your Local Area to support this?

- Visit **London Museum of Water and Steam** where children can discover and see for themselves how water was supplied to London, discover engineering in action on special steaming days and explore the hands-on Waterworks Gallery and Splash Zone.
- Take a trip to the **London Transport Museum Depot** and see historic modes of transport, including buses, trains and unusual objects from history.
- Take a visit to **Regent's Park** and see the Frieze Sculpture and describe and talk about the shapes, colours, textures and ideas behind the sculptures before using this as inspiration to create their own at home.
- Explore **Chiswick House and Gardens** and walk through the villa and winding paths passed trees, lakes and architectural features using these to talk about seasonal changes and positional language.



transport around the world



tuk tuk



gondola



dog sled

George Stephenson invented the steam engine in 1829 – nearly 200 years ago



past

present

future



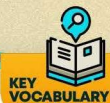
What will transport be like?



pilot



astronaut



journey

when we **travel from one place to another**

transport

when we **travel using a vehicle**

road safety

rules to keep us safe when we travel

technology

using what we know to **make things that can help us**, vehicles all use technology

invent

to **create something new**



car driver



sailor



train driver