

Term 5 Class Newsletter 2026

Reception class news for the term ahead



Bitham Brook
Primary School

Contact us:

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Clothing

When the weather turns warmer please ensure that children come to school with a sunhat and water bottle. Sun cream should be applied at home on hot days. Please note drinks bottles should be named and only be filled with water. We have noticed that children are bringing squash but we want to encourage the healthier option of water. In addition we find that squash stains the carpet when it spills - a common occurrence in Reception and it attracts ants.

Please continue to ensure your child brings minimal possessions into school. We also request that children no longer bring any toys to school.

When the children have PE, they should continue to wear their Bitham Brook PE kit into school with the school jumper over the top.

Our PE and dance days are Tuesday/ Friday in Nightingales and Wednesday/ Friday in Jays. This term we will be focusing on some of the fundamental movement skills such as running and jumping. We will also be practising skills needed for Sports Day.

This term our topic is 'If You Plant A Seed'

Supporting your child at home

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Please hear your child read at home at least five times a week. Little and often is best. Please continue to practice common exception words, phonemes and name writing.

Phonics

- We will be learning the Phase 4 blends and common exception words. We will be learning to read and spell words containing adjacent consonants such as trip, vest and strong.

Literacy

- Lots of opportunities will be given to apply our phonic knowledge - writing sentences.
- A focus will be developing letter formation in writing.
- We will be making predictions when reading stories.
- We will write instructions for planting a seed.
- We will be reading and writing letters and postcards.
- We will write simple riddles.

Maths

- We will focus on developing fluency with concepts such as doubling, halving, subitising, number recognition and counting.
- Securing addition and subtraction facts including number bonds.
- Number patterns within 20
- Odd and even numbers.

Expressive Arts and Design

Music

- This term we will be exploring different sounds and experimenting with creating our own sound effects. We will consider the speeds of different sounds and we will move to different tempos.

Art

- We will be developing our knowledge of working with clay, focusing on how to use the different parts of our hands to roll, pinch and press the clay in order to make a pot. We will then create textures on the outside building on our learning this term. We will be visiting the White Horse Pottery as part of our clay unit.
- We will explore the work of an Italian artist - Giuseppe Arcimboldo who created portraits using materials such as fruit, vegetables and flowers.

PSHE

- Our PSHE topic this term is 'Relationships'. We will be thinking about how to make good relationships with those around us. Discussions will include; how to solve friendship problems when they occur, how to help everyone feel part of a group and what it means to be a good friend.
- We will think about treating others with respect and exploring some techniques to help ourselves and others when we feel upset and hurt.

Understanding the World

Learning will include:

- Sowing seeds and knowing what plants need to grow.
- Knowing the main parts of a plant.
- Investigating the life cycle of a butterfly and comparing it with the frog life cycle.
- A local study - learning about Westbury and drawing maps.
- Learning about London and the royal family.
- Understanding the past by reading stories.
- Learning about communities, and how they celebrate special times.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you to please write in your child's reading log book each time you read with them, as this is helpful for us to know how the children are progressing at home. Please continue to practise their common exception words. There are many words to learn, so it is important for you to support your child's progress.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sophie Barnett, Ruth Kennedy, Laura Keay and Hermione Trypanis.
Reception Team