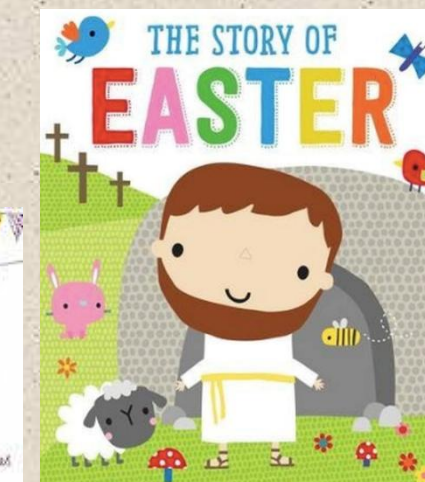
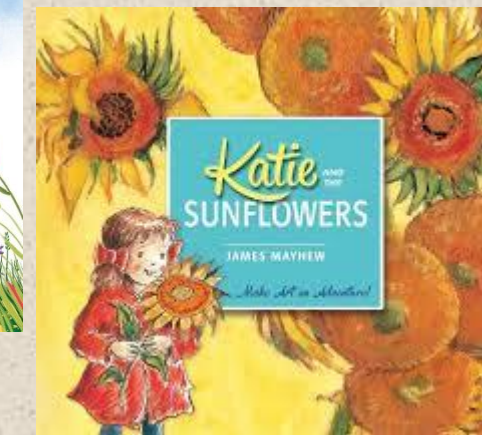
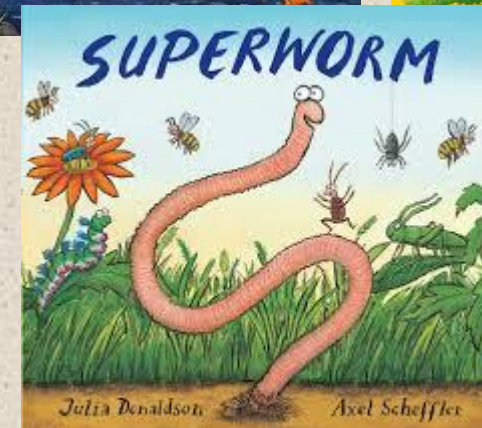
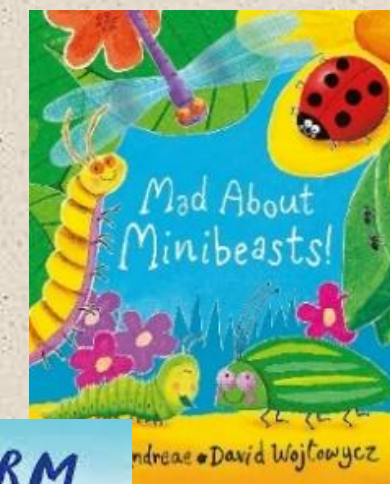
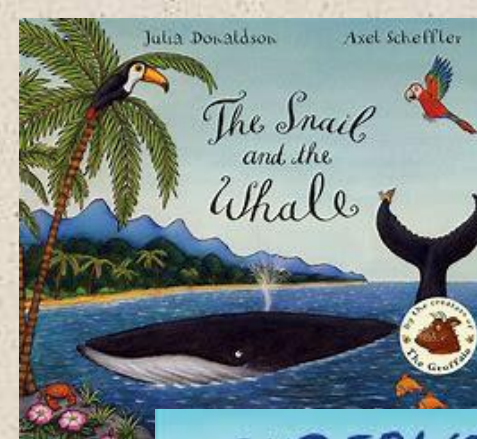
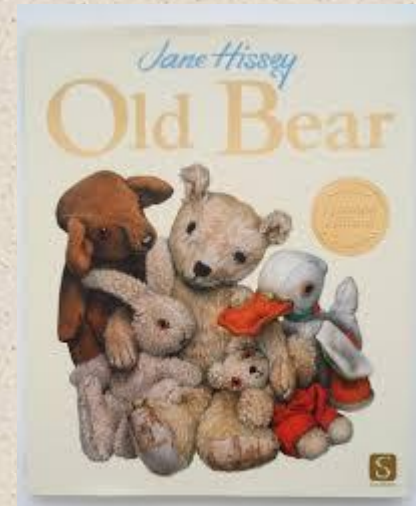
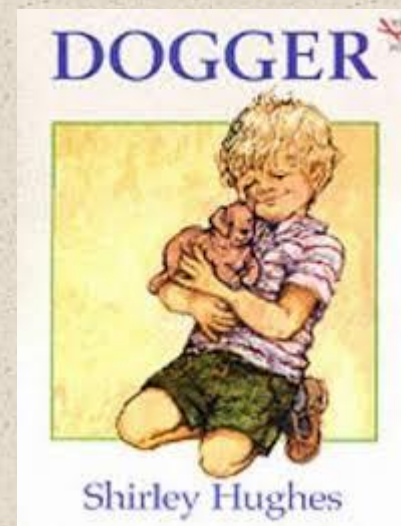


# Reception – Spring Term 2 Curriculum Newsletter

Key books this term



Toys – Week 1

**Key learning focus:**

**Exploring old and new toys**

- Comparing how toys have changed over time
- Describing materials, movement and purpose
- Developing imaginative play through role-play

**Possible vocabulary:** old, new, past, present, material, battery, wooden, plastic, favourite, share

**Key questions:**

- What toys do you like to play with?
- How are old toys different from new ones?
- How do toys move or work?
- Why do we share toys?

Minibeasts – Week 2 & 3

**Key learning focus:**

**Identifying common minibeasts**

- Exploring habitats and where bugs live
- Developing curiosity about nature
- Observational drawing and counting activities

**Possible vocabulary:** insect, minibeast, habitat, wings, antennae, crawl, fly, legs

**Key questions:**

- What minibeasts can we find outside?
- Where do they live?
- How do they move?
- Why are minibeasts important?

Spring – Week 4

**Key learning focus:**

**Signs of spring and seasonal change**

- Weather observations
- Plant growth and new life
- Outdoor exploration and nature art

**Possible vocabulary:** spring, blossom, buds, warmer, rain, sunshine, grow, seeds

**Key questions:**

- What changes do we see in spring?
- What happens to plants and animals?
- How does the weather change?

Easter – Week 5

**Key learning focus:**

**Easter celebrations and traditions**

- New life and spring links
- Creative crafts and storytelling
- Counting, matching and themed literacy

**Possible vocabulary:** Easter, celebration, egg, chick, bunny, new life, spring

**Key questions:**

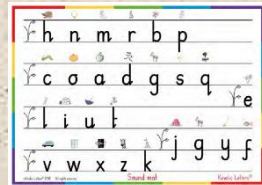
- How do people celebrate Easter?
- What symbols are linked to Easter?
- Why is Easter special for some people?

## Fine motor:

## Physical development

### Name writing

Every morning all the children will come in and find their names, following the arrows to ensure they start their letters in the correct place and have the correct formation.



### Kinetic Letters

We are learning handwriting through the Kinetic Letters programme. Kinetic Letters focuses on building strong bodies and strong habits so children can become confident, fluent writers.

Children will focus on developing scissor skills through cutting activities. They will practise holding scissors correctly, cutting along lines and shapes, and improving hand strength and control through creative activities such as crafts, playdough and construction.

#### AT HOME:

- Encourage cutting activities using child-safe scissors.
- Provide opportunities for drawing, threading, playdough and small construction.
- Practise ball skills such as throwing, catching and kicking.
- Encourage active play outdoors to develop balance and coordination.

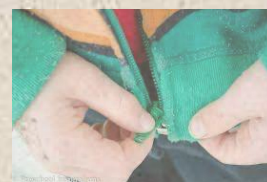
Gross motor In PE, children will take part in multi-skills sessions designed to develop balance, coordination, agility and control. They will practise running, jumping, throwing, catching and moving safely in different ways while building confidence and teamwork.

We will practice these skills during PE sessions on a Monday.

### Self care

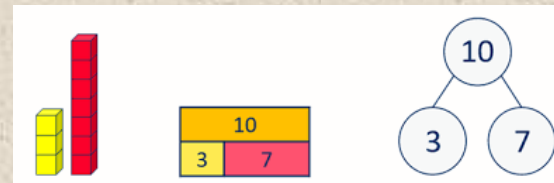
Encourage your children to dress themselves – doing up shoes, zips, buttons, belts.

Eating – using cutlery, opening lunch boxes and food bags. Hygiene – cleaning teeth, brushing hair, toileting.



## Number bonds to 10

This half term, Reception children will focus on securing number bonds to 10 using ten frames, part-whole models and practical resources. They will explore how numbers combine to make 10 and develop confidence recognising number pairs that total 10. Children will continue practising counting to 10 while building a deeper understanding of number relationships through hands-on activities and visual representations.



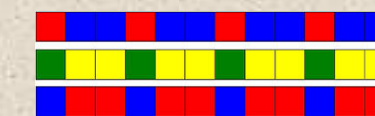
#### AT HOME

- Practise number bonds to 10 using everyday objects.
- Spot patterns around the home and outdoors.
- Make repeating patterns with toys, Lego, beads or natural objects.
- Create action patterns (clap, tap, clap, tap)
- Encourage your child to copy and continue simple patterns.

## Mathematics

### Subtraction

As children become confident with number bonds to 10, they will begin exploring subtraction within 10. They will practise taking away, finding how many are left, and identifying missing parts using ten frames, part-whole models and practical resources. These activities help develop early problem-solving skills and a secure understanding of how numbers work together.



### Patterns

This term, Reception children are exploring measurement by comparing and describing objects' length, height, and weight. Through hands-on activities, they are developing practical skills in measuring, estimating, and using appropriate vocabulary to describe the world around them.

## Knowledge and Understanding of the World

### RE – What stories are special and why?

This half term, children will explore why some stories are special to different people and communities. They will learn how Christians and Jewish people care for their special books and begin to understand how stories can guide how people treat others.

Children will: Talk about stories that are special to them and why  
Learn how Christians care for the Bible and how Jewish people respect the Torah  
Listen to stories from the Bible and discuss their meanings  
Explore how these stories can teach kindness, respect and caring for others

This term, Reception children are exploring the world through Science. Children will explore the natural world by learning about minibeasts and the changes that happen during spring. They will observe living things closely, ask questions and develop curiosity about the environment around them.



### Past and Present

This half term, children will explore toys from the past and compare them with toys they play with today. They will learn how toys have changed over time and begin to understand that things were different when their parents and grandparents were children.

Children will:

- Look at and discuss old and new toys
- Compare materials, appearance and how toys work
- Talk about favourite toys from different time periods
- Develop an understanding of past and present through discussion and play

### Forest School

We will be continuing to explore the outdoor environment, developing curiosity and confidence in nature. Our Forest School sessions will focus on teamwork, problem solving, and developing physical skills like balance and coordination.

AT HOME: Talk to your children about the world around them and their place in it.

## Literacy- Reading and Writing

### Phonics

At Hall Meadow we follow a phonics scheme called 'Read, Write, Inc.'



### Sounds

This half term children will:

- Continue revisiting Set 1 and Set 2 sounds
- Blend sounds to read simple words and short sentences
- Segment words into sounds to support spelling
- Read and write simple captions and phrases



#### AT HOME:

- Share books daily – read to your child and talk about the pictures.
- Practise recognising their name in print.
- Listen to your child blend sounds into words when they are ready.
- Help them practise writing their name with the correct letter formation.
- Offer fun fine motor activities to strengthen hands: threading, playdough, Lego, using pegs and scissors.
- Talk about your day together and encourage full sentences.

### Grandma Fantastic

This half term, children will develop their early writing skills through the *Fantastic Foundations* scheme. Through stories, talk, and shared writing activities, *Grandma Fantastic* helps build children's vocabulary by introducing new words and encouraging them to use these words in their speaking and writing.



### Writing

Through our Spring 2 themes (Toys, Minibeasts, Spring and Easter)

Children will:

- Write labels and simple sentences
- Create fact files about minibeasts
- Write simple descriptions
- Practise correct letter formation using Kinetic Letters
- Develop confidence in independent writing

## PSED



We follow a scheme called SCARF to focus on PSHE, which links to PSED in EYFS. Our focus this term is Rights and Respect.

This half term, children will be learning about rights and respect through the SCARF programme. They will explore how to care for themselves, others and the world around them. Children will talk about the importance of kindness, responsibility and understanding how their actions affect others.

Children will focus on:

- Looking after special people in their lives
- Being a kind and supportive friend
- Helping at home and caring for our classroom
- Respecting and caring for the environment
- Beginning to understand how money is used and why it is important
- These experiences help children develop empathy, responsibility and positive relationships with others.

#### AT HOME:

- Encourage your child to help with simple jobs at home. Talk about ways to be a kind friend and family member.

## Expressive Arts and Design

### Art Sculpture and 3D Creation Station

This half term, children will explore sculpture and 3D art through a creative making station. They will experiment with clay, playdough and a range of materials to develop their fine motor skills, creativity and imagination.

Children will:

- Explore modelling with clay, dough and other malleable materials
  - Create 3D landscape artwork using a variety of resources
  - Design animal sculptures through drawing and discussion
  - Make their own animal sculptures using different materials
  - Paint and decorate their finished sculptures
- These experiences support creativity, problem-solving and confidence in expressing ideas through art.

### Music

Children will explore sounds, rhythm, and pitch using their voices and musical instruments. They will learn simple songs, experiment with making different sounds, and respond to music through movement and listening activities. These experiences support listening skills, creativity, and confidence in performing.

## Term Dates

- 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – World Book Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – PACT – Wonkey Bars
- 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Read with Children
- 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Parents evening
- 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – PACT Mothers Day Afternoon Tea
- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Red Nose Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Rock Steady Concert
- 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – PACT – Easter Disco
- 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – PACT – Easter Bonnet competition