

Meet the Team Class Teachers

Miss J Bloxham
EYFS Class Teacher

Mrs L Leatherland
EYFS Class Teacher

Mrs C Lewis
Head of School

Support Staff

Mrs L Judkins & Miss D Marques
Teaching Assistant

Mrs S Gupta
Apprentice Teaching Assistant

Key Dates

Friday 3rd Feb
NSPCC Number Day

Wednesday 8th February
Hearts & Flowers Stay and Play -
2:00pm

W/C: Monday 6th Feb
Children's Mental Health Week

W/C: Monday 13th February
Half Term

Thursday 2nd March
World Book Day

Monday 6th March
Parents' Evening

Wednesday 8th March
Parents' Evening
& International Women's Day

Friday 17th March
Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Tuesday 28th March
Easter Stay and Play – 8:45am -9:45am

Thursday 30th March
Spring Assembly – EYFS & Year 1 -
10:30am

Friday 31st March
Last Day of Term – school closes at
3:15pm

Class Dojo

We will share whole year group information on Class Dojo. Throughout the year we will notify you on Class Dojo of simple tasks for your child to complete which you can upload to your child's account on Tapestry. This will also be used to share information with you.

Please let us know if you have any problems with Class Dojo.

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a wonderful break and are looking forward to the year ahead. We are very proud of how quickly the children have settled back into our school routine after the Christmas break.

As a team we feel so proud of all that the children have achieved during the Autumn Term, and we are very excited to continue to explore a wide variety of topics with them. We will be 'travelling' to some different continents and learning about celebrations, people, and places in the wider world.

Special Snack

In Reception we enjoy cooking and making our special snacks! This term these will continue to be part of our timetable. Sometimes we will eat our special snacks at school and sometimes we will bring them home with us. If your child does have any food allergies that we are not aware of, please contact the office to update your child's records.

In order to support this, we are asking for a donation of £1 per child, per week. The instruction for payment and consent for your child to participate is available on the Arbor Parent Portal.

Subject Overviews

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Throughout this term we will be exploring and discussing the feelings of others and our own. We will also be working together to share ideas and solve problems. We will be supporting the children with their emotions by reintroducing the 'Calm Kit' in the classroom. This will support the children if they are feeling worried or if they feel they need time to reflect.

Circle times have become part of our timetable; this is where we will celebrate our similarities and differences. We will also take time to talk about our feelings and how we can communicate these effectively with others around us.

We will also continue to celebrate the children's achievements, inside and outside of school and how they overcome challenges in their learning.

Communication and Language

During our carpet times, the children will continue to develop their listening and concentration skills. They will also be encouraged to ask and answer questions to further develop their understanding of our new topics.

You may have heard the children talking about Grandma Fantastic! She will continue to be used in our literacy sessions to introduce new vocabulary with the children.

Our 'Tapestry Share' on a Friday is very popular with the children. It gives them time to talk about their own achievements and experiences at home. Please continue to share photos, videos, and posts with us on Tapestry for the children to share with their peers.

Maths

Maths will now focus on securing number knowledge by counting aloud, subitising, recognising and writing numbers to 10. We will continue to introduce the concepts of addition and subtraction in practical contexts using five frames and part whole models, before moving onto recording our number sentences. Throughout the term we will also be learning about time, weight, height, and 3D shapes in our continuous provision activities.

Tapestry

Throughout the week you will have notifications to view new entries to your child's Tapestry journal, which will have been input by different adults in Reception.

In order for us to build a full picture of your child's interests and achievements, we would love to see what the children get up to in their spare time. Please feel free to upload pictures, videos, or comments to your child's learning journal via the app or the website. These will also be used during our Tapestry Share sessions, where the children will have chance to talk about them. We will happily support you with how to use Tapestry if you are unsure.

What can I do at home to help my child?

- Ensure independence when dressing, particularly putting on socks/tights and doing up buttons.
- Discuss taking responsibility for their own belongings – please make sure items are clearly named!
- Practice reading activities frequently to support your child's confidence when reading.
- Share stories together, discussing beginning, middle and end.
- Discuss combining groups of objects using the language of 'add' and 'subtract', along with writing down the correct format.
- Encourage writing at every opportunity and use Tapestry to share this and any other achievements with us.
- Practice identifying 2D and 3D shapes and describe them by the number of edges and corners they have.

Physical Development

The children will continue to take part in PE sessions every **Wednesday**. Please ensure that their PE kit is in school. Please feel free to leave their kits in school for the term. During this term we will be focusing on gymnastics; learning to rock, roll and control body shapes and balances. We will develop our confidence by applying these skills on low apparatus by linking movements and creating sequences.

Mark making and writing is encouraged throughout the children's day to support their fine motor skills and pencil hold. The children will also be using the outdoor area and the playground to explore our new markings!

Literacy

Each week the children will work in small groups to take part in an adult led Literacy task. They will be encouraged to write words and sentences linked to our topics using the lenses from the Reading Rainbow.

Read Write Inc Phonics sessions will continue this term and the children will continue to revisit sounds they have previously learnt, and they will be learning new sounds and words. The children will also be developing their blending and segmenting skills to support them in their reading and writing.

During our Book Talk sessions, the children will share a variety of texts throughout the week and discuss them in more depth using the 'Fantastic Lenses.' We will be looking at the characters, their feelings, what the children can notice, how the characters move and what the characters may be thinking.

Our Reading Corner is a quiet place in the classroom where the children are encouraged to read and share books together. They will also have the opportunity to read books matched to their phonics ability. Books/Ditties will be sent home for you to share with the children. Please also continue to read stories from home with your child as regularly as you can.

Understanding the World

This term we will be experiencing a variety of celebrations. These include Chinese New Year and Easter. We will also be looking at how our world and environment around us is changing in the Spring season and comparing this to Winter.

In our weekly topics we will be looking at a variety of different countries and continents and celebrating similarities and differences in our country and others.

Expressive Art and Design

Role play is an important part of the classroom, and we will continue to develop this to support the interests of the children. Small world areas will also reflect some of our topics and give children opportunities to create stories around characters.

During Music sessions, we will be listening to different songs from other countries and in different languages. We will also be using instruments and exploring sounds to create different rhythms and music.

We will look at artists such as Lowry and Picasso to take inspiration from their work and use a variety of media to paint, draw and assemble.

This is the term where we usually see the children really take off with their learning, so we are looking forward to sharing their successes with you!

With best wishes

The Reception Team