



Rabbit Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2026

Dear parents/carers,

Rabbit Class Staff

Miss Garland - Class Teacher

Mrs Morris and Miss Loraine - Teaching Assistants

Welcome

This is a very exciting time as we welcome new nursery and reception children into Rabbit class. The first few weeks of the academic year are very valuable in getting to know each other and becoming familiar with the school routines. During this period, we carry out a baseline assessment which helps to inform future planning and learning. This enables us to create challenges and appropriate activities for everyone.

All about me!

Our topic this half term is 'All about me!' Children will be learning about what makes us special and how we are unique by looking at our similarities and differences. They will take part in a range of engaging cross-curriculum activities to enhance their understanding of this topic.

In **maths** Rabbit class will be learning the key skills of comparing and ordering, counting, sorting and matching, subitising and composition. They will explore these ideas in different contexts in their play. In **understanding the world** children will be learning about families. Through **Developing Experts** children will learn about our bodies. In **design and technology** pupils will practise mark making using different media including crayons, pencils and felt tips. Our **music** sessions will be based on traditional children's nursery rhymes. Children will learn to perform songs and rhymes with others and try to move in time with music. In **Physical Development**, our focus will be on fundamental movement skills. In **RE** this half term children will discuss 'Why is the word God so important to Christians?' Our **personal, social and emotional development** sessions will focus on forming positive relationships.

Stay and play

Please come and join us for a nursery and reception Stay and Play session on Monday 28th September from 9am – 9.45am.

Phonics and Reading

We have daily Read Write Inc phonics lessons and the children work in groups according to the stage they are at in their learning. We use phrases to help the children remember how to form each letter correctly. Please read at home daily and record this in your child's reading record. Children can take part in the school reading challenge. Each house team will compete to win a cosy reading session in which they can share stories, drink hot chocolate and bring in a soft toy or blanket/pillow from home. The children have been asked to read at home daily and have this recorded in their reading diaries. This does include having a story read to them or listening to an audio book. Every child that has read 7 times will receive a reading sticker and a raffle ticket in our celebration assembly on Fridays, the child's ticket that is picked out will win a book. The house team with the most tickets that week will be added to our reading challenge display in the hall. The house team that has read the most at the end of each half term will win a cosy reading session.



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Phonics for nursery

During nursery the emphasis is on children listening to and identifying different sounds that they can hear, such as environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body percussion and voice sounds. They should also be able to discriminate between sounds that they can hear. Once children are familiar with oral sounds, they may notice some patterns, such as rhythm and rhyme - at this stage, this will be as simple as listening to a nursery rhyme or song. They will begin to recognise sounds that have the same initial sound, such as 'apple' and 'ant'.

PE

PE is every Monday and Wednesday with our PE specialist. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit. Many of our PE sessions will be outside this term so dress appropriately (jogging bottoms if the weather is a bit chilly) and wearing appropriate footwear (Velcro trainers are easier for children to manage independently). Long hair must be tied up, and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons.

Water bottles

Please ensure your children have a labelled water bottle in school with them every day.

Supporting your child at home

Activities that you could engage in with your child include.

- Counting objects.
- Sharing stories and singing rhymes.
- Playing games.
- Drawing pictures.

If you have any questions please come and speak to us, we are always happy to help.

Kind regards,

Miss Garland