Reception Autumn Letter 2026

Physical Development:

Revise and refine the fundamental movement skills they have already acquired: rolling, crawling, walking, jumping, running, hopping, skipping, climbing.
Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.
Further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully: lining up and queuing, mealtimes, personal hygiene.

Literacy:

Core texts - Mess Monsters, Ruby's Worry, On Sudden Hill, The Cave, Love is Kindness and Astrogirl

Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them.
Blend sounds into words, so that they can read and write short words made up of known sounds.
Read a few common exception words matched to the RWI programme.
Begin to use some letters in writing.
Begin name writing.

Mathematics:

Count objects, actions and sounds.
Subitise.
Link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value.
Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
Understand the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers.
Select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills. Continue, copy and create repeating patterns.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
Create collaboratively sharing ideas, resources and skills.
Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.
Develop storylines in their pretend play.
Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.

Communication and Language:

Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
Engage in story times.
Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.
Describe events in some detail
Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities explain how things work and why they might happen.
Develop social phrases ie. Please, thank you, "Stop it…I don't like it!"

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Build constructive and respectful relationships.
Manage their own needs.
Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.

Understanding the World:

Talk about members of their immediate family and community.
Name and describe people who are familiar to them.
Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
Understand that some places are special to members of their community.
Understand the effect of changing seasons.