

Curriculum Information

Reception Autumn 1



Hello everyone and welcome to Reception! We hope you had lots of fun in the summer holidays. We just want to take this opportunity to say how excited we are to be working with the children this year. Already they are showing great enthusiasm and a positive attitude for school life so we can't wait to start our adventures together! Our topic this half term is "All about me" with a focus on the big question "Who am I?". We will also explore "Who will I be when I grow up?" We cannot wait to see what you have put in your 'All about me' bags and get to know you better. Our topic day will be all about belonging. We will be settling in to school and getting to know the routines. In the first week we will be busy making our entries for the Harden Horticultural show and preparing for our art exhibition. In regards to reading, your child will have wordless books for the first few weeks so you can talk to them about the pictures and ask them questions along the way. Your child will be read with 3 times per week so please ensure they have their book with them everyday. Book changes will be on a **Monday** and your child will visit the library on a **Friday** where they can choose a book they can share with you at home.

Maths

This half term we will be focusing on numbers 1-5 including recognising numerals, counting forwards and backwards and making amounts. We will also be identifying and making patterns using a variety of resources.

Throughout the home setting maths will occur naturally however there are a few things you can do to support your child with their school focus for this half term.

- Going on a number hunt in the natural environment (door numbers are great)
- Counting at every opportunity
- Making patterns using a variety of resources (cubes, cars, fruit)
- Mark making numbers with different materials (glitter, shaving foam, sand)
- Download the White Rose App and have a go at some games!

English

Our English work will introduce the children to drawing club. Through these sessions the children will develop their love of stories, practice drawing, mark making and writing. We will explore the structure of a story, looking closely at the beginning, middle and end. We will be encouraging children to retell stories using their own words emphasising on the vocabulary used throughout the stories. The children will be encouraged to use their imaginations to create drawings of alternatives to the story and to consider both character and settings.

A few things to do at home to support the above:

When reading, pause and ask what might happen next.

Ask why questions ("why are they sad?")

Order the story through pictures

Physical Development

Gross Motor: Use of outdoor area, building dens, spatial awareness, using climbing frame equipment, being safe, building obstacle courses.

P.E Focus: Introduction to P.E & Ball skills following our scheme Get set for P.E **PE takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays.**

Fine Motor: Name writing, sound and number formation, threading and weaving, playdough, putting on shoes and fastening coats.

R.E

This half term our big question will be '**Who cares for me? Who belongs in my family and community?**' The children will learn about people that help us in society. This is an opportunity to become familiar with significant people in our lives in school, at home and within the community.

PSHE

This half term we will be looking at: helping others, caring for other peoples feelings, working well with others, starting school and responsibilities.

At Harden we also follow **My Happy Mind:** A wellbeing programme for primary children taught through a story. Our focus story this half term is Berty and Betty's play date. The activities will then look at: What does our brain help with? Difference between happy and sad and How do our brains work?

Home Learning

Reading - As week 2 begins your child will be sent home with a reading book. These books begin without words to really deepen their comprehension skills. Once phonics has begun your child will then be sent home with a book with words to compliment the sounds taught in phonics. When reading to your child or hearing them read to you ask questions about what they have read to check their comprehension and that they have understood it. Encourage them to answer questions with explanations rather than 'because I think so'.

Words - As sounds are taught, flashcards will be sent home to practice. We recommend you do some sort of reading or phonics work daily to consolidate work completed at school but we understand that as the children start school it's sometimes just too tiring so don't worry too much as they have lots of practice when in school!

Class dojo- We will be sharing special moments and achievements via class dojo. Please follow scan the QR code to sign up for an account.

Parent event: We invite you to come in and share what the children have been learning about in our first parent event on Tuesday 20th October at 2:30pm.



If there is anything you would like to discuss in person please let us know and we can arrange a date and time. If you have any questions please feel free to email us or catch us at pick up/drop off.

Phonics

Our Phonics scheme at Harden Primary is "Little Wandle" The children will start their phonics journey from week 2 (14/09/26) where they will be introduced to the sounds S,A,T,P,I,N The children will rapidly work through the sounds of the scheme and you will see such a huge improvement in their recognition of letters, pronunciation of sounds and quite quickly their formation and spelling. Each time a sound is learnt we will provide a sound card for that letter. These will be in their reading wallets to share with you at home and practice! The children will learn phase 2-4 of the scheme before year 1. These include sounds and "tricky words" (words we can not sound out). More information will be given on phonics so do come and see us if you require some extra guidance. No question is a silly question!

Reading

Linking to our phonics scheme is also our reading sessions. Each Monday your child will be provided with a new little wandle reading book. During the first half term, before sounds have been introduced we will be looking at wordless books with a focus on speech and language and your child telling the story using visual aids as guidance. At school, your child is part of a reading group. Each group has between 6-8 children in. They then read together alongside the teacher or TA 3 times per week following the 3 sessions:

Session 1 Decoding: This is the chance to learn the story, learn new vocabulary and explore the structure.

Session 2 Prosody: A chance to continue learning the story, look at characters and expression when reading.

Session 3 Comprehension: By this stage we hope the children are familiar with the story and need little help. At the end of the story we ask questions to check their understanding.

All guidance for the 3 sessions are in the back of the book for practice at home too.

Topic

This half term our topic is 'All About Me' and we will be answering the question 'Who am I?'. We will be settling into school and talking about new beginnings. We will look at family photos and talk about who is in our family and talk about our likes and dislikes. We will talk about how we have changed and what our dreams and aspirations are. If you would like to come in and talk to the class about your job it would be lovely to have a variety please come and speak to one of us. (We are looking to do this during the weeks 12/10 and 19/10.) We will learn about our bodies and how to keep them healthy. We are going to be going for a walk round the village on the afternoon of 8th October and would appreciate some parent/grandparent helpers to accompany us. Please make us aware of family situations if possible so that we can support children in the best possible way.

Technology

In school we use J2e your child will be given a login for this in their reading journal and this will allow them to explore the different tools. We use the infant toolkit initially exploring the drawing programme. Learning how to select colours, change brush sizes and explore different effects to create a picture.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children always have access to the design and craft area but these will be complemented with different enhancements and focused activities related to their topic.

As a focus we will be answering the question 'How can I represent myself?'. The children will explore a range of media to mark make. The children will use a tripod grip to draw a portrait of them selves. They will learn about the artist Rob Biddulph. Check his drawing YouTube channel www.drawwithrob.com

Through music we will learn about how we can use music to represent feelings and emotions. We will focus on beat and pitch.