

General Information and Reminders

Top ways to help at home

We have carefully thought about some key areas of the curriculum that can be supported at home. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

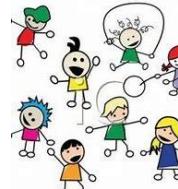
Recalling Number Bonds to 5: A number bond is simply a pair of numbers that combine to reach a certain total. There are six combinations that make 5. Once the children become fluent in recalling these, we will progress to number bonds for 10 and beyond. This fundamental concept supports children's understanding of basic addition.

Practising Digraphs and Trigraphs: We encourage children to practise writing words containing digraphs (two letters making one sound, like **sh** or **oa**) and trigraphs (three letters making one sound, like **igh**). Using the sounds we have learned in class will help develop their writing skills. To assist with this, we have placed sound mats in their bookbags. Providing open-ended writing opportunities—such as helping with shopping lists, writing cards, or keeping a simple diary—is a fantastic way to build their independence and confidence.

PE

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE uniform in school every day from after October half term:

blue shorts/tracksuit trousers, a grey t shirt, plimsolls or a change of trainers for outside



Please ensure all clothes and shoes are clearly labelled with your child's name.

PE in Reception is taught by Mr Spadaccini on a Monday but also can be on other days!



Trips

Our Heath outside learning will be every other Wednesday afternoon after October half term. If you are available to help on any of these outings, I would be grateful if you could sign up on the sheets outside the Reception classroom.

Homework - Homework will be sent home on Thursdays and is due back the following Tuesday. This term it will consist of a creative activity, reading practice and a phonics sound flipbook. You could also support your child's learning by hunting for objects that begin with these sounds.



HOMEWORK

The reading diaries will be used in order to carefully monitor progress in reading as well as being a useful home-school link. Each week your child will bring home one book from our phonics scheme-Little Wandle. Please keep this book in their bags for us to access throughout the week. You can also help yourself to picture books and additional decodable books from other reading schemes from our reading trolley outside the Year 2 classroom!

Class assembly - Our class assembly this term will take place on **Wednesday 25th March at 10.00am**. All parents and families are warmly invited to join us in the school hall.



Reminders

- Please ensure all school clothes are named to prevent items getting lost.
- If your child is absent from school, please email the school office on the first day of absence and keep us updated on any further days of absence.
- Your child has been given a Christ Church water bottle. Please make sure your child's water bottle is in school every day.
- Please do not send sweets or any food/non-food items into school to celebrate birthdays, we are unable to hand these out to the other children in the class. Thank you.

Christ Church School, Hampstead

A village school in London inspiring *life in all its fullness*



Reception

Spring Term 2026



Reception

Class Teachers: Miss Innes

Support Staff: Miss Mardon and Miss Appleby

Other adults working with Reception: Mr Spadaccini (PE), Miss Miller, Mrs Pagnello and Mr Oliver (Music)

Welcome to the spring term in Reception!

This letter outlines our class topics, trips and general information for this term. If you have any questions, queries or concerns over the coming term, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards, Miss Innes and the Reception Team

This term's Christ Church Arts Project will focus on Dance!

Each class will be working with professional dance teachers to learn a different style of dance - ranging from traditional British folk dances, to line dancing and rock and roll - and then we are planning to share our routines with families in a performance in the Church in the afternoon of **Friday 13th March**. More details and timings to come. If parents or families have any contacts with dancers or the dance world, we'd love to hear from you! It would be great to have some one-off visits from dancers to share their talents and tell us about what it's like to be a dancer. Please get in touch with class teachers or Mr Hollings if you have any contacts to pass on.



Literacy



The children will be encouraged to write down the sounds they can hear in words and experiment freely with their own writing, through role-play and other classroom activities. This is intended to help the children gain confidence so that they see themselves as writers. Our topic work will be covering Traditional Tales including Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Jack and the Beanstalk.

Reading



Children will continue to develop their phonemic awareness in daily phonics lessons to support with the tools to read. Reading books will continue to be changed once a week with group reading sessions and one-to-one reading supporting the children's development throughout the week. Please enjoy sharing stories with your child as regularly as you can, to cultivate and reinforce a love for reading. Please use the reading diary as a useful home-school link. Please continue to practise reading the High Frequency words found at the bottom of the homework sheets.

RE



The children will be thinking about why Jesus is significant to Christians, this builds on from our Christmas story last term. We will be thinking about what makes someone special in our lives and making links to the stories of the lost sheep and the feeding of the five thousand from the Bible. In the second part of the Spring term the children will learn about the Easter story with a focus on Palm Sunday. We will think about how this special event is celebrated by Christians.

Numeracy



This term we will be building on children's previous achievements. We will be consolidating their knowledge of numbers to 10 and extending the children's counting, reading and writing of numbers to 20. We will be extending the children's counting skills by doing addition and subtraction of numbers to 10. They will continue to develop their mathematical skills through games, singing, structured play and daily routines. We will also be investigating time and money.

Understanding of the World



Children will be given opportunities to investigate and find out about materials, looking closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change. Children will be encouraged to ask questions about why things happen and how they work. On the Heath we will continue to observe and comment on changes in nature in the natural world. We will be looking at some basic map work to make routes to and from the Heath. We will be using our topic on Chinese New Year to find out how it is celebrated around the world and thinking about how it links to celebrations we have such as birthdays and New Year.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Our PSHE week takes place during the week commencing Monday 2nd February and focuses on keeping ourselves safe and healthy. In Reception we will be learning to recognise likes and dislikes and how to make real, informed choices that improve physical and emotional health. We have a number of local visitors coming in to talk to us such as the local police and we will take part in scooter training to develop our road safety skills. We will continue to learn about sharing, turn taking and making positive friendships through books, play and class discussions.

Physical Development



Tennis Basketball

The children will be encouraged to develop their gross and fine motor skills and to move confidently and safely in a range of ways. We will practise using equipment effectively including pencils for writing and scissors for cutting. This term in PE, we will be focusing on negotiating space safely and ways to keep our bodies and minds healthy.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children will develop their creative skills through art, music, role-play, drama and dance. They will be encouraged to experiment and practise a range of skills including drawing, painting and building. We will expand the children's knowledge of famous works of art from artists such as Van Gogh. In music, the children will learn a call-and-response singing game that uses a simple and repetitive four-note tune to support the development of pitch matching. They will also explore a range of voices adopting different roles creating simple accompaniments.

Communication and Language



Many of the children are becoming confident and fluent speakers. This term we will be working on good questioning skills and using our tenses correctly. Alongside this we will be using a range of texts and our 'word of the week' to extend and develop vocabulary. We will continue to role-model English and develop vocabulary through reading, play and music!

Please see the reverse for general reminders and some key dates!