

The EYFS Team

Class Teachers: Mrs Whittle and Miss Kendrick

Teaching assistants: Mrs Wood, Miss Farrelly, Mrs Jordan and Miss Passarelli

EYFS leader (PPA cover Wednesday): Mrs Kitching

Welcome to EYFS- Reception



We are SO proud...

of how well your wonderful children come into school each day. They have adapted so well to their new routines and have settled in beautifully. They are our shining stars! We can't wait to see them flourish throughout the year.

Well done Reception x

Advent 1 2025

In Reception, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum where the children lead the learning, and their needs and interests are at the heart of everything we do.

Our wonder question and line of enquiry will be: **I wonder what makes us so special?** This will relate to the topic: **All about marvellous me.**

The big picture - We will be looking at families, friends and transition into school. The children will talk about who they live with, where they live and the community, and who cares for them and how. We will be discussing school routines and our behaviour curriculum, as well as exploring the classrooms and outdoor area. They will be selecting their own resources and developing their playing skills to enable them to be confident learners.

Reminders

- We do lots of outdoor learning. **Please bring in a named pair of wellies and an all-in-one suit for your child at your earliest convenience. These will stay in school.** Thank-you ☺
- Please ensure **all belongings** are labelled with your child's name, so if lost they can be easily returned to you. Children must bring a named drinks bottle to school each day, filled with **water only**.
- Please ensure to complete GDPR form provided in the initial pack and return to the school office as soon as possible.
- Please ensure to register for Class Dojo (RAW- Mrs Whittle's class and RMK- Miss Kendrick's class).
- Please only come into school via the main school drive for drop offs and pick-ups, and not via the gate at the bottom (this is our Nursery entrance). However, you may exit via the bottom gate.
- Your child **will not** need to bring a bag to school, as we do not have space on their pegs to store these. We do however ask, that you bring labelled spare clothes in a **disposable** carrier bag to be stored in school.

Dates for your diary

- Reading workshop - Tuesday 23rd September 3.45-4.15pm (All parents to attend) in the school hall
- Parents' Evening Wednesday 15th October
- Break up for half term (2 weeks) Friday 17th October
- Reception Nativity 9th December 2pm 11th December 10am

Please note there may be some additional dates and information sent to you via the Arbor app.

Home Learning

- **Reading (daily – 10 mins per day)**

Please ensure that your child's reading books, and organisers are in their folder and brought to school **every** day (these will be given out shortly). Remember to sign/comment in the organiser every time you have heard them read. We will change your child's books and hear them read in school once a week.

- **Phonics (weekly- 10 mins)**

Practical phonics-based activity linked to the learning in class. Please look out for weekly golden tickets.

- **Maths/topic related activity (half termly)**

P.E.

P.E will take place on a **MONDAY** afternoon for both Reception classes.

- Please make sure that your child comes dressed in their PE kit and that all items of clothing are labelled. They can wear trainers (preferably Velcro if they are unable to tie their own laces). This helps your child's independence, as well as reducing the risk of lost uniform.
- For warmer weather, children's PE kit will consist of a white polo top and navy shorts. For colder months, navy joggers, a navy sweatshirt and a white polo top. No branded logos please.

Please remove earrings on P.E. day and all long hair must be tied back. Only stud earrings may be worn on non-P.E. days.

RE

This half term, our RE focus is Creation and Covenant. We will learn that God knows and loves us and explore different ways that we can look after God's world. We will learn how to make the sign of the cross, our school prayers and some songs to help us praise God. Part of our topic includes signs and symbols used in Baptism. Please look out for a Baptism homework sheet where your child will share a photograph of their special day with their peers. As part of our RE lessons, scripture will be shared with the children, and this half term, we will focus on Isaiah 43 and the story of Creation.

Behaviour at the Good Shepherd Academy

We are very proud of our children and the way in which they behave. Our behaviour management is rooted in love, forgiveness, and the Gospel values. Through our nurturing approach, we encourage the children to see themselves as unique individuals made in God's image and we seek to accentuate the positive in each child.

In Reception, we will be focusing on developing children's self-regulatory skills, which can be defined as the ability of children to manage their own behaviour, feelings, and aspects of their learning in different situations.

We will be spending a lot of time over the next few weeks establishing our class expectations and routines. We believe these are very important as it helps to create an environment in which every child can feel secure and able to develop at their own pace. We try and live by our school values of:

Being joyful, showing respect, serving others, achieving our best, showing mercy, being courageous, being generous and showing gratitude.

These are often rewarded with 'mission merits' throughout the school day, which will appear on your Dojo app.

If your child does something super at home, please fill in a WOW moment and send it in to class so that they can celebrate with their teacher and peers.