



Eastbury Farm Primary School

Autumn Term 2025- Curriculum Newsletter



Reception – Cedar A & B

CREATIVE CURRICULUM TOPIC: I am Special, I am Me (Autumn 1) Twinkly Lights and Gloomy Nights (Autumn 2)



Dear Parents & Carers,

To those of you that are new to our school, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your families, and to those of you that are existing parents from Nursery, welcome back to a new school year. We are extremely excited to meet you and your children and we look forward to a fantastic year ahead! For the first few weeks of this term, we will be concentrating on settling the children into their new environment, meeting their new class and the staff members as well as establishing rules and routines. We will make this transition as smooth as possible for your child and will work closely with you to settle your child as quickly as possible. As always, we encourage strong communication between school and home, so if there are any concerns, please speak to your child's Class Teacher for further support.

Items to note:

P.E. lessons will take place on **Thursday** for both classes and your child will need to wear their full P.E kit on this day. If your child wears earrings, please remove them or tape them up and please ensure that long hair is tied back.

Forest School sessions will take place on **Thursday** for both Cedar A and B. Please provide a **labelled waterproof jacket, trousers and wellington boots in a bag** for your child. It would also be useful if you could provide a peg so your child is able to independently peg their wellington boots together. Please can these PE kits and Forest school be brought in as soon as possible.

Meet the Team:

Mrs Mowle – Cedar A Teacher and EYFS Leader
 Ms Jaques - Cedar B Teacher
 Mrs Yeomans - Early Years Practitioner
 Mrs Davies – Early Years Practitioner
 Mrs Winter - Early Years Practitioner

Reminders

In Reception, we will be sending home:

- Reading books and a reading record
- Home Learning via Evidence Me
- High frequency words to be learnt

We would encourage you to read daily with your child, their school reading book as well as other stories. Each child will be provided with a reading record. Please make sure these are recorded in by family members. Once a book has been read, the reading books will be changed at school if signed by a family member. Children will also read weekly in school to an adult on a 1:1 basis. In school we will also be checking your child's ability to recognise high frequency words.



Evidence Me

In Reception we observe, plan and assess the pupils using 'Evidence Me' which ensures that we meet the individual needs of all pupils. We encourage parents to take an active part in their child's learning and share with us all the fantastic things your child can do at home too. We look forward to developing this home school link with you.

Topic news

Our topic for this half term is – "I am special, I am me" and we have a topic table in the classroom that we will be adding to each week with items such as books, photographs, clothing etc. It would be wonderful if your child could bring in some items from home to add to our interest table.



Star of the week

We are proud to announce that every Friday in Reception we will have a 'Star of the week' from both Cedar A and Cedar B to celebrate your child's success at school. They will receive a certificate, and this will be added to our 'Star of the week' celebration board.



Water Bottles and Snack

Fruit/veg will be provided for all children daily at snack time. The children will need to bring in a named, transparent, re-usable plastic water bottle that they can access throughout the day.



Toys

Please do not allow your child to bring toys, jewellery or novelty items from home into school. These cause problems with sharing and can easily be lost or damaged. We appreciate your support with this.



Peter Bear

Every Friday a child will be selected to take home the class bear and record their weekend activities. Your child will then have a chance to share this with the class on Monday. This is to promote communication skills. Peter Bear will start to go home with children from Cedar A and B on **Friday 19th September**. We look forward to hearing all about Peter Bears adventures!

Morning Routine and Home link book



Getting the morning routine right early on is crucial in helping each child to settle into Reception successfully. At 8.40am, please ensure your child is at the following areas:

Cedar A: Line up at the gate to the Reception outdoor play area
 Cedar B: Line up at the gate to the Reception outdoor play area (next to Cedar A)

Please HAND your child's Home link book to the adult waiting at the door/gate of your child's class if you have recorded a message for us to read. Please ensure reading record folders are available in bags daily to enable changing and reading of books.

At this point, the children will be supported by the staff to organise themselves. This will include hanging up their coats and bags and taking out their water bottles. It is essential we build these lifelong skills early on and encourage the children to be independent. We kindly ask that parents wait **outside** of the Reception classroom at this time to ensure all children are happy and settled in the classroom as quickly and safely as possible. Please do not worry if your child is upset when saying goodbye initially, they soon get used to this and the staff will ensure every child is settled and happy each day.

Key dates

19th September – Reading record and books to start coming home.
 23rd September - Individual and sibling photos
 3rd October – Reception Phonics meeting – 9am
 17th October – Flu vaccinations
 Half term 27th October – 31st October
 6th November – EFSA Firework night
 26th and 27th November - Parents' Evening
 16th December - 10.00am - EYFS Christmas Production
 17th December – Christmas Jumper day
 19th December – Autumn Term ends at 1.15pm
TBC - Friday Morning - Busy Fingers - 8.40-8.55am - once the children have settled in

Visits & Visitors



This term we plan to have a group called 'Hartbeeps' in to carry out a music and dance session with our children. We also plan in the second half of the term to walk to the postbox to give the children a purpose for writing. Throughout the term, we will be learning about different events and festivals around the world including Harvest, Bonfire Night, Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas and many more. We are sure your children will tell you all about their learning and fun activities that they have completed when they come home!

What will we be learning about across the curriculum?

In Autumn term we will focus on completing baseline assessments so that we can identify your child's starting points. This allows us to plan appropriate activities and challenges to move your child's learning on.

The Early Years curriculum is split into 7 areas of learning. Here's what we will be focusing on this term:

Prime Areas



Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Build confidence settling into a new class and environment, play alongside others, building up new friendships, share their experiences and skills with others, adapt behaviour, select, and choose activities, become familiar with routines and class rules, children begin to talk about their own feelings. Children talk about their home and family and start to develop a sense of community.



Physical Development – Gain increasing independence with self-care including dressing and using the toilet. Develop whole body gross motor skills and fine motor skills including: hopping, running, catching and kicking a ball and using scissors. To begin to use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils with a preferred dominant hand.



Communication and Language – Speaking and listening to each other, sharing ideas, responding to instructions, answering questions, learning new songs, and using language in imaginative play including using correct tenses and beginning to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions

Specific Areas



Literacy – Sharing stories, book-handling skills, using pictures to tell stories, learning letter formation rhymes, developing speaking, and listening skills, beginning to make marks and form letters, write some or all their name and develop their phonological awareness so that they can: spot and suggest rhymes, count or clap syllables in a word and recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother



Mathematics – Subitising objects without counting, link numerals and amounts, recognise numerals to 10 and beyond, exploring repeating patterns, positional language, sequencing, and ordering numbers and begin to talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using mathematical vocabulary.



Expressive Arts and Design – Using a range of manipulatives to create a planned effect, using imagination in play, singing songs and dancing, selecting colours for a purpose, mixing paints, making representations of people, animals and objects with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.



Understanding the World – Exploring changes through the seasons, learning about different cultures and religions, use all of their senses in hands-on exploration, explore materials and their properties, begin to make sense of their own life story and family history, explore how things work and begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and living things including life cycles and caring for growing plants.

Useful links

[Evidence Me observations](https://2simple.com/evidenceme)

<https://2simple.com/evidenceme>

[RWI Set 1 Sound pronunciation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

[Topmarks – maths games](https://www.topmarks.co.uk)

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