

Reception Spring Term 2 2026

Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had an enjoyable half term break. I would like to welcome Mrs Shaw, and we have been busy planning this half term together.

The learning theme for this half term is 'Once upon a time... and The Three Little Pigs'. The children will spend the first week looking for signs of spring. Then they will be learning about stories and will focus on the traditional tales including 'The Three Little Pigs'. They will be thinking about traditional stories and looking at how life was different or similar in the past. We will be focusing on houses and homes but will also look at clothes and transport as they come up in the stories. The children will have a go at building the pigs' houses and will use the puppets to retell the story. They will be comparing homes of the past with their homes. We will ask you nearer the time to send in a photograph of the outside of your home and a room, so the children can compare their homes to homes of the past. We will also be looking at different types of houses around the world.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Communication and Language

Children need experiences and support to help them develop a positive sense of themselves and others, the social skills needed for interaction and the disposition to learn. Communication and Language is linked very closely to PSED where children learn to share information and opinions with others as well as listening to the ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion, through circle time, show and tell, stories or play. Children will be sharing their thoughts and ideas about their favourite book character, what makes a good or a bad character, which story character they would most like to meet and why, and which is their favourite story.

Physical Development

Hopefully, the weather will continue to improve, and we will venture outside to develop our skills of using sporting equipment, such as balls, racquets, hockey sticks and hoops etc as well as playing team games. This half term we will focus on ball skills, such as throwing, catching, kicking, and rolling. We will continue to develop your child's fine motor skills through various activities, exercises, and play. These include threading beads and stencils, using tweezers and pegs.



Literacy

We will continue to develop this area with our teacher led activities around our themes. Our focus texts for this half term include Traditional Tales and multiple versions of 'The Three Little Pigs'. Children will complete a range of activities around these texts including character descriptions, sequencing the stories as well as acting them out with puppets. Children will listen to lots of the traditional / fairy tale stories and become familiar with the story language used in these texts. They will listen to the original versions and the alternative versions of the stories and make comparisons. We will also be using the non-fiction texts 'Homes through History' and 'Homes around the World.'

During phonics lessons the children will be working on the digraphs and trigraphs (sh, ch, th, ng, ee, ai, oo, oa, ar, or, igh, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er and ure). We aim to cover 4 sounds each week. The children will be reading and writing words containing these sounds and building up to writing simple sentences, supported at first and then independently. They will also be reading and writing phase 2 (I, the, go, to, no and into) and 3 (he, she, me, we, be, they, was, you, are, my, all and her) tricky words.

Reading with your child as often as possible remains a focus to promote a love of reading and help to consolidate the skills they are learning in school. Remember it can be reading from their reading books, sharing a library book together or learning their tricky and high frequency words on the bookmarks you received. If you need a replacement bookmark, please let Miss Alston know.

Mathematics

Children will continue to develop their mathematical understanding, skills and knowledge through opportunities to explore, play and practise. This half term we will continue to practise counting forwards and backwards in ones. The focus will be on numbers 8, 9 and 10, and the composition of these numbers. The children will regularly revisit the number bonds for numbers 2 to 7, so their recall becomes automatic, as well as comparing numbers and using mathematical language to explain their thinking. The children will start to learn about doubling and halving. They will consolidate their learning on 2D shapes as well as learning about 3D shapes.



Understanding of the world

Children will be provided with a whole range of activities and learning opportunities to help them make sense of the world. This half term the focus will be on the past and present, where children will compare images of the past with images of the present. They will be learning about materials and their properties through our theme of The Three Little Pigs and have a go at building the houses using the materials straw, sticks and bricks.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will experience art, model making, music, movement, dance, imagination and role-play activities to explore and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings. For example, children will act out stories, paint pictures of story characters and continue to build and explore with the junk modelling and construction resources. Singing and music sessions will continue weekly.

Notices:

- Please make sure that your child is always dressed appropriately for **all weather** situations and has a coat in school every day. Please also ensure that your **entire child's uniform** is clearly named to help avoid any mix-ups.
- Also **please discourage your child from bringing in toys from home**, unless it has been a request for our Circle Time or your child's Show and Tell day. We do not want anything to get lost or broken.
- Remember to bring book bags in everyday and reading books will be changed on **Fridays**.

If there is anything else that you need to know, please do not hesitate to ask. My email address is lucy.alston@benrhydding.bradford.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,
Miss L Alston.

Dates for Your Diary

Parent Consultations – Friday 27th February

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March