EYFS – Autumn Term 2026
Information for parents of children in EYFS

Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely Summer holiday!

The EYFS team are looking forward to a busy and fantastic term ahead! The children are now settling well and have made a wonderful start to their Nursery and Reception year. It has been lovely to meet and get to know all of our new children and they are taking the new term in their stride. All of the children are settling so well and are making new friends, learning new routines and having lots of fun!
The staff in the EYFS this term are:

Mrs Burland, Mrs E Thompson, Miss Barsby, Mrs B Thompson and Mrs Tiffany.

School day timings

The school day in Reception starts at 8:45am and finishes at 3:15pm. Nursery starts at 8:45am and finishes at 11:45am for morning children and 3:15pm if your child stays all day. Please ensure that your child is on time for school as we start our learning straight away and arriving late can make children feel unsettled. If your child is unwell or cannot attend school please let the office know.

Nursery children should be dropped off and collected from the EYFS outdoor area. Please support your child to come into school independently.

Staff are always available to chat about your child but mornings can be a very busy time so (if possible) please try to catch staff at the end of the school day. If you would like to discuss things more privately with a member of staff, please contact the school office and either a phone call or meeting can be arranged.

Reading

Reception children will be bringing their reading books home on a Monday and Thursday. Please ensure that you read with your child **AT LEAST FIVE TIMES A WEEK**. This is so important to your child's progress. Reading books will come home every Monday and need to be brought back into school every Thursday. Once you have shared the book, please write a comment about your child's reading in their reading diary to help them become a High 5 Reader. A new reading book will then be given out to be returned again the following Monday.

Nursery and Reception children will be bringing home a school library book that they have chosen themselves; please share this book at home, talking about the story (plot and characters) as well as looking at the illustrations. Library books will be changed every Monday for Nursery and Thursday for Reception.

Please note, library books / reading books will only be renewed if the previous book has been returned to school.

We will be hosting a phonics meeting for Reception Class Parents in the Autumn term. More information to follow.

Homework

A Homework Challenge sheet is set for the children in Reception only. This will change every two weeks as we introduce a new story. The homework sheet will consist of a drawing/making/doing activity and one or two 'talk' activities. Talking is very important in the Early Years because it helps children develop the skills they need to learn, express themselves and make friends.
The government website for help for early years providers states:
Having a large vocabulary helps children learn more. Words allow them to make sense of the world around them. Communication and language is a EYFS prime area which means that it's one of the important building blocks for all the other areas. If it's not developed early it's difficult to achieve later.

Children's language skills are connected to their overall development and can predict their educational success. As speaking and listening develops, children build foundations for literacy, for making sense of visual and verbal signs and ultimately for reading and writing.

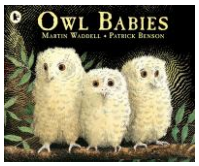
Please feel free to video the talk homework and upload them on to Tapestry. We will also allow time in class for your child to share their homework with the rest of the class.

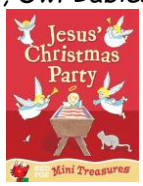
Curriculum

Reception

Autumn 1 – We are focusing on the topics: All about me, Changes (How I've grown), Healthy Food and People who help us. Some of the texts we will use to support our learning are: The Gruffalo, We're Going on a Bear Hunt and Supertato.

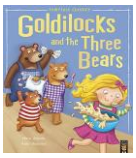
Autumn 2 – we are focusing on the topics: Seasons (Autumn & Winter), Light and Dark, Diwali and Christmas. *Some of the texts we will use to support our learning are: Funny Bones, Owl Babies and Jesus's Christmas Party.*

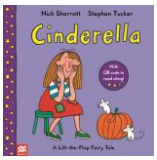


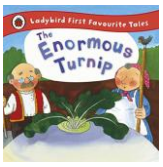


Nursery

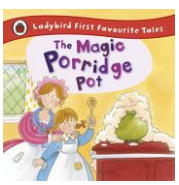
In the first part Autumn term we will be finding out about ourselves in the topic 'All About Me' – how we look, how we feel and how we have changed. An ongoing focus throughout the year is to observe the different seasons; we will explore the changes that happen in our environment with a particular focus on plants and animals. This term we will learn about Autumn and Winter. Lots of the provision in our learning environment is based on stories and nursery rhymes. Our stories this term will be; 'Goldilocks and The Three bears,' 'The Enormous Turnip' and 'Cinderella.' Our class rhymes will be 'Baa Baa Black Sheep and 'Hickory, Dickory Dock.'

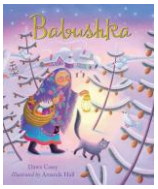






In the second part of the Autumn Term as we move into Winter, we will explore light and dark. We will find out about festivals and celebrations including Diwali and Christmas. Our books will be 'The Little Red Hen' and 'The Magic Porridge Pot' and 'Babushka.' We will look closely at some rhymes as a class focus, including – 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star' and 'Miss Polly had a Dolly.'





Outdoor activities and PE:

Outdoor activities and PE - EYFS will have Forest School every Friday morning – please ensure that your child is wearing suitable clothing for the weather.

As learning outside continues to be an essential part of the EYFS curriculum, we access our outside areas daily, so please ensure that named waterproof coat and trousers (or an all-in-one) and a pair of wellies are left in school at all times.
Reception will have a PE lesson on a Thursday. Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit on this day. If the weather is nice, we will be outside for the lesson. Please ensure that trainers have Velcro fastenings (unless your child is able to tie their own shoe laces).

Marvellous Me

Some of you will be aware that in school we use a communication platform called Marvellous ME. This allows us to send brief updates in the form of messages or 'badges' about your child. Please make sure that you are signed up to Marvellous Me and have installed the app on your phone. This is a super way of sharing great work your child has done at school.

Tapestry

Tapestry is used in school to record the children's daily achievements. These are shared with you through the app and there are always lots of photos for you to enjoy talking about with your child. It is a brilliant way for you to keep up to date with what your child has been learning at school and also an easy way for you to show home learning / activities (or special events / achievements) with us in school. The children LOVE to share what they have been doing at home with their friends in school so please send us any photos!

If you have any problems accessing these online resources, please contact Mrs Dunn in the office.

Snack

We provide a healthy snack each morning for the children. Snack is a special time at Moorside where we encourage speaking, listening and lovely manners. This is a social time where children are encouraged to sit and interact with different children each day.

Book bags

We are pleased that your children are remembering to bring their blue book bags to school each day. Please check them daily as this is where any letters will be. The children will also use these book bags to bring home any pictures or work they do at school.

We are looking forward to a busy and successful term. If you do have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The EYFS team