

We try to make your child's school environment as exciting and stimulating as possible and this requires a lot of resources. We would be very grateful if you have any of the following items at home, which you could bring in for us to use:

- ♦ Large log slices
- ♦ Sheets and blankets
- ♦ Magazines and Comics
- ♦ Small world toys or figures
- ♦ Wool, buttons and fabrics
- ♦ Guttering and crates for large outdoor construction.
- ♦ Junk modelling materials (cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, tubs, drink bottle lids etc.)

We often find smaller items make more interesting models. Please **do not** bring in anything that has contained **nuts** as we have children in school with nut allergies. Items will be **quarantined for 72 hours** before they are used.

If you have anything else you think we might be able to make use of, please come and talk to one of the Reception Team.



Reception Topics

Throughout this academic year, the children's learning will be based around a single topic per term, as well as their individual interests. We will send home a detailed topic jigsaw at the start of every term. The details may be subject to change, but the topics will be as follows:

Autumn Term

Relationships and Community Build

We will be getting to know each other and establishing class relationships, rules and routines. We will also cover the Reception content of the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education curriculum.

A Whole New World

This topic is in celebration of the 400 year anniversary of the pilgrims setting sail for America. It will also include other voyages of discovery in history and pilgrimages.

Christmas

During the final two weeks of the Autumn Term we will be celebrating Christmas, making exciting things to take home and learning the Christmas story. Reception will also be performing a show stopping Nativity, which has become something of a Lanesend tradition! You will not want to miss it.



Spring Term

Rain, Steam and Speed

Rain, Steam and Speed is one of Turner's famous pictures. To link with the Tate Modern exhibition of his art work, we will explore this and the time that he lived in. We will also link to the Year of European Railways, as well as opportunities to look at steam inventions, the weather and speed records.



Easter

We will spend the last three days of term on the Easter story and Easter related activities.

Summer Term

Written in Stone

This topic will be a link between the Aztecs / Mayans and the Egyptians. It will also link to the history of writing from the Rosetta stone onwards. Sports and Health week will also take place this term.

Community Review

A chance to celebrate achievements throughout the year and prepare the children for the next step of their learning journey into Year 1.

Family Meetings

We will be holding a family meeting early in the Autumn Term to share information about the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, Baseline, Tapestry and Phonics. We will then hold open lessons throughout the year to give you a chance to see how to support your child's learning at home. These are likely to take place via Go To Meeting.

Reading

It is very important that children should develop a love of reading and we encourage you to support your child with this. We are looking to develop an electronic system to share when children read at home and in school. Reading does not have to be their school reading book; it can be a favourite story book, an information book, comic or magazine. Children will begin by taking home familiar stories to share with an adult to develop a love of reading. This will support the development of their comprehension skills, vocabulary and understanding of story structures. We will then send home books linked to the sounds they are learning in Phonics or guide you to online books via Oxford Owl.

Phonics

We will send **phonic sound cards** home after the children have been introduced to them in class and it is really important they practise these as much as possible. Children also receive a new set of **common exception word cards** linked to the phonic phase they are working in and need to learn these by sight. Families often like to hunt for these words in stories or play pairs games with them.

Home Learning Grid

Each term, we send a home learning grid to help extend your child's learning beyond the school environment, with activities linked to areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. These activities are designed for you to do with your child and we would love them to bring in any home learning or share it via Tapestry.