The Federation of Fairfield Infant and Colneis Junior School

Reception Autumn Term Curriculum Information 2026

Year group teachers:	Miss Donnelly- Early Years Phase Lead Miss DOnnelly RD Mrs Crump and Mrs Lewis RLC Mrs Baker RB
Year group support staff:	Mrs Bird (TA), Miss Kay (TA), Mrs Morrison-Wheeler (TA), Miss Boulton (TA), Mrs Van Den Ende (TA) Miss Andrews (Apprentice) Miss Monk (Apprentice) Mrs Spalding (PPA) Miss Bacon (PPA) Miss Jones (PPA)
Dates for the diary: 	We are hoping to organise local visits and visitors into school this year and will provide information nearer the time. **December 2026** We aim to visit St Andrew's church– exact date TBC in due course. ***Friday 25th September 2:30pm Welcome to Reception – reading and phonics*** Meeting in the school hall to discuss school routines, enabling environment and use of Tapestry. We will talk to you about our planning in the moment approach and how you can be involved in this process. We will explain our **early phonics programme** and how we teach your children to **read** in school and the expectations for supporting your child at home. ***Black History Month*** October 2026 *CBeebies: Lets talk about Black history ~ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slSqk-K1Qe8* *Black History Heroes ~ https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/cbeebies-house-black-history-heroes* ***Diwali*** Sunday 8th November 2026 *A variety of activities will be available to support Diwali celebrations.* ***Remembrance Day*** Wednesday 11th November 2026 *You can access videos and activities on CBeebies* ***Odd Socks Day*** (Anti-Bullying Week) Monday 16th November 2026 *Children will be invited to wear their odd socks to school for Odd Socks Day.* *https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/odd-socks-day* ***Children in Need*** Friday 13th November 2026 *Refer to your Parent Mail nearer the time.* 😊 Please refer to diary dates on the website/newsletter https://www.fairfieldandcolneis.co.uk/

Curriculum areas to be covered this term in:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)



Self-Regulation
Managing self
Building Relationships

This term we will be introducing our School Charter, values and the routines of school. Each aspect of the new charter and behavioural expectations will be explained and



Autumn 1
As people, we will learn …

- To play with one or more children.
- To show confidence in new social situations.
- To remember and follow school routines and expectations.
- To build constructive and respectful relationships.
- To explore emotions through the Zones of Regulation.
- To independently wash hands.
- Choose and use activities and resources appropriately (Choose it, use it, put it away).
- With support, change clothes for PE.

Autumn 2
As people, we will learn …

- To try new challenges and not give up.
- To begin to express feelings and consider the feelings of others.
- To take turns and play co-operatively.
- To talk about themselves using prompts from home.
- To independently change clothes for PE.
- To independently put on, and zip up, our coats, as well as putting on hats and gloves.

Communication and language

Listening, Attention and Understanding



Autumn 1
As communicators we will learn …

- To enjoy listening to stories.
- To learn to sing a range of songs.
- To start a conversation with an adult or friend.
- To understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
- To use talk to work out problems and organise thinking.
- To understand and respond to simple questions.
- To understand and follow a verbal, one step instruction.

Autumn 2
As communicators we will learn …

- To listen to and talk about stories and remember what happens.
- To ask appropriate 'how' and 'why' questions.
- To engage in a back and forth conversation with adults and peers.
- To talk about our learning and what we have enjoyed.
- To understand and follow a two step instruction.

Physical Development



Autumn 1
As movers we will learn …

- To develop balancing, and co-ordination.
- To skip, hop and stand on one leg.
- To begin to use one-handed tools and equipment.
- To use a comfortable grip when holding pens and pencils.

Autumn 2
As movers we will learn …

- To develop strength and balance when playing and dancing.
- To negotiate spaces and obstacles safely.
- To use one handed tools and equipment, such as scissors and paintbrushes.
- To secure our pencil grip.

The children will have a weekly PE lesson on a Tuesday with Mr Ross. These sessions will support the development of gross motor movements, coordination and balance. All children have access to fine and gross motor activities everyday within the provision. Target children will have a guided gym trail session with Mr Ross once a week.

Literacy



Comprehension & Word Reading
Writing

Autumn 1
As readers and writers, we will learn …

- To spot and suggest rhymes.
- Count or clap syllables in a word.
- Recognise words with the same initial sounds.
- Recognise their name.
- Form pre-writing shapes accurately.
- Read some individual letters by saying the sound for them. s,a,t,p,i,n,m,d,g,o,c,k
- Enjoying singing songs and rhymes.

Autumn 2
As readers and writers, we will learn …

- To know that for handwriting letters are in 'families' Ladder, Caterpillar Robot, Zig Zag
- To correctly form the letters in their name.
- To recognise and read GPCs taught so far (Autumn 1 sounds plus: ck,e,u,r,h,b,f,l,j,v,w,x,y,z,qu,ch,sh,th,ng,nk)
- To understand that a digraph is two letters that make one sound (e.g sh)
- Begin to blend sounds to make 2 and 3 letter words.

Reading
Children will have access to weekly reading books following our parent information session on Friday 27th September. These books allow your children the opportunity to practise the letter sounds they have been learning in their phonics sessions. Children will have access to Oxford Reading Buddy and Busy Things to support Phase One and Two phonics.





Busy Things login:

FairfieldEYFS Password: fairfieldABC53

Busy things is a great resource that has lots of games to enable your children to explore all areas of the curriculum.

Oxford Reading Buddy - individual logins These will be recorded inside the reading diary.
This is an online resource that gives you access to a range of books. We set your children on the appropriate level that we allow them to be able to read and understand the text. After reading a book your child takes a quiz, this allows us to see how your child is comprehending a story. We will set this up after half term.

Mathematics



Number
Numerical Patterns

Autumn 1
As mathematicians we will learn …

- To take part in finger rhymes with numbers.
- To orally count to 10 within songs.
- To develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects (subitise).
- To match numerals and amounts up to 3.
- Verbally say which group has more or less.

Autumn 2
As mathematicians we will learn …

- Have a deep understanding of numbers 1 – 5 including numeral recognition and number bonds within 5
- To subitise numbers 1-5 using Numbots
- Compare equal and unequal groups.

Understanding the world



Past and Present
People Culture and Communities
The Natural World

Autumn 1
As explorers, we will learn …

- To know about their own life story and know they have changed.
- Know about features of the immediate environment.
- To explore and ask questions about the natural environment around them.
- To talk about Harvest Festival and where food comes from.

Autumn 2
As explorers, we will learn …

- To explore the natural world around us, making observations and drawing pictures.
- To understand changes in the natural world by talking about and observing seasonal changes.
- To know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now.
- Know that there are many countries around the world
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Expressive Arts and Design



Creating with Materials
Being Imaginative and Expressive

Autumn 1
As creators, we will learn …

- To take part in pretend play.
- To explore different materials including craft and construction.

- To draw a self portrait
- To remember and sing entire songs.
- To play instruments with increasing control.

Autumn 2
As creators, we will learn …

- To use different media to create a picture and talk about it.
- To use small world and role play to retell and adapt a familiar story.
- To sing a simple song together.
- To be able to tap out a rhythm within a group.

You will receive a weekly memo on a Friday outlining the learning that has taken place in school that week. You can use this to support discussions with your child at home. You will see a range of pictures from children across the year group taken across the week.

Once a half term your child will have their turn to be a 'Star Learner.' During this week the adults will record their interactions with your child. At the end of the week your child's teacher will add 'Next Steps' to their recording sheet and this will be shared with you via Tapestry on a Friday. Please ensure you read this and press the 'like' button so we know you have read it.

We would also love to hear about the learning taking place at home. You can upload your own observations, photos and video clips from home.

Parents with Tapestry accounts can be assured that the journals remain a safe document with parents agreeing not to reproduce or share any images on social media accounts. They are a wonderful account of the children's progress and experiences during their Reception year and provide a lovely time capsule.



Additional information about ways in which you can help your child at home:

- Help them to learn how to dress and undress independently e.g. take off and put on their own shoes and jumper.
- Promote good manners and tidying up after themselves, including saying ‘good morning’ to their teacher on the way into school in the mornings.
- Encourage them to talk about what they have learnt in school that day.
- Encourage them to bring in items/share photos on Tapestry of subjects that relate to school projects/their own work.
- Encourage them to celebrate and share achievements as a ‘WOW’ moment on Tapestry, e.g. certificates of achievements, riding their bike for the first time, the birth of a sibling, buttoning their coat independently etc.
- Encourage your child to read, practise the sounds and keywords highlighted in their diary or practise counting on a daily basis. Little and often is the key and each day only needs 10 or 15 minutes.
- Share a book together, take turns to read then discuss the story events and characters. Remember, reading to your child models the skills of reading e.g. altering your voice, pausing at punctuation, making predictions ‘What do you think will happen?’
- Practise reading Harder to Read and Spell words (keyring words)
- Discuss number in everyday life –time, money, quantities, numbers in the environment, more, less etc.
- Play board games, memory games or ‘I-spy’ to develop concentration and turn taking.