



# Welcome to Reception



## **Reception Curriculum Overview 2025–2026**

At Abbey Park Primary School, our Reception curriculum is designed to nurture curiosity, creativity, confidence, and kindness. We follow a thematic approach, where each half-termly topic is explored through high-quality texts, purposeful continuous provision, and real-life experiences. Here's a glimpse of the exciting learning journey ahead!



### **Autumn 1 – My Wonderful World**

We begin our Reception journey by getting to know each other. Children explore their interests, families, homes, and emotions through stories and imaginative play.

**Focus Texts:** *Where the Wild Things Are, Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*

**Key Outcomes:** Personal narratives, information leaflets

### **Autumn 2 – Twinkle, Glow and Shine**

Exploring light, celebrations, and our place in the universe. We'll learn about seasonal festivals and how to care for the planet.

**Focus Texts:** *Look Up!, Ning and the Night Spirits*

**Key Outcomes:** Information texts, non-chronological reports



### **Spring 1 – Everyday Heroes**

Children meet real-life community heroes and celebrate everyday acts of kindness and courage.

**Focus Texts:** *The Magic Paintbrush, Super Milly and the Super School Day*

**Key Outcomes:** 'Overcoming' tales, character descriptions

### **Spring 2 – Bloom and Grow**

Children explore life cycles, planting, and nature through hands-on experiences.

**Focus Texts:** *The Tiny Seed, The Extraordinary Garden*

**Key Outcomes:** Narrative writing, advice leaflets



### **Summer 1 – *Together We Belong***

This topic celebrates identity, inclusion, and family. We explore how everyone belongs and every voice matters.

**Focus Texts:** *So Much, The Night Pirates*

**Key Outcomes:** Poetry and guides

### **Summer 2 – *Paws, Claws and Rhyming Jaws***

A rhyming adventure exploring pets, pond life, and sea creatures.

**Focus Texts:** *Hairy Maclary, Oi Frog!*

**Key Outcomes:** Narrative and rhyming stories



## Our Maths Curriculum: *White Rose Maths*

We follow the *White Rose Maths* scheme, which is designed to develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts through hands-on, practical learning.

### **Key Features:**

- Focus on number sense, patterns, counting, and early calculation
- Use of concrete resources (like counters, cubes, and ten frames), pictorial representations, and abstract symbols
- Encourages reasoning and problem-solving from an early age
- Lessons are structured to revisit and embed concepts over time, ensuring secure understanding
- Maths is taught daily through a mix of whole-class sessions, small group work, and independent activities
- Children are encouraged to “talk maths,” explain their thinking, and explore different ways to solve problems, developing both fluency and confidence.



## Our Phonics Programme: *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised*

We follow the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* phonics scheme to teach early reading and writing skills. This is a **systematic, synthetic phonics programme** validated by the Department for Education. It ensures every child is given the tools they need to become a confident reader.

### **Key Features:**

- Daily phonics sessions from the start of the year
- Consistent structure across all groups to support every learner
- Three *reading practice sessions* per week with carefully matched decodable books
- Ongoing assessments to ensure rapid progress and targeted support
- Home reading books that match your child's phonics level

### **Parent Support:**

- A Phonics Workshop will be offered in the autumn term so you can see how we teach phonics and how to support reading at home.
- E-books and resources will be made available to support home learning from September.





# Printing African inspired sunsets











# African Drumming



PIC•COLLAGE



Building  
shelters for  
African  
animals



PIC•COLLAGE



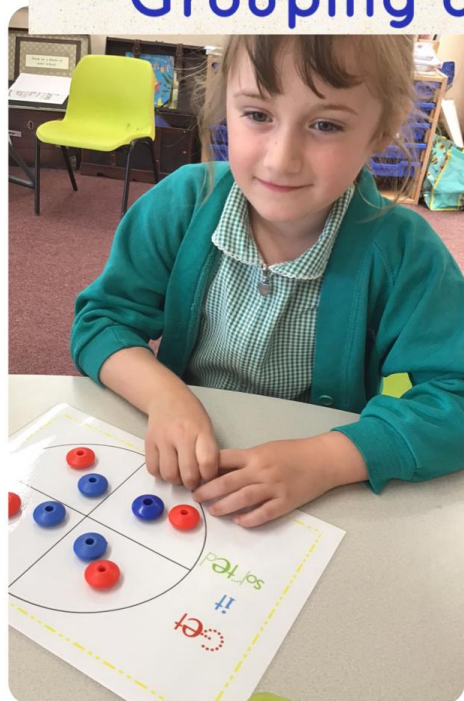
This week we have been learning all about plants and flowers. We have played the role of a florist in class.







Grouping and sharing



PIC•COLLAGE



Thrills Day



PIC•COLLAGE





We picked the  
ripe  
strawberries  
from our  
growing area



PIC•COLLAGE

# How can you help and support your child before they start school?



# Starting Reception: Key Skills

- Taking part in imaginative play
- Drawing, painting, colouring and sticking
- Sharing story books and discussing characters
- Exploring the world around them





# Independence and Self-Care

- Putting on and taking off coats and shoes
- Using the toilet and washing hands
- Using cutlery and drinking from an open cup
- Spending time away from familiar adults



# Communication and Relationships

- Singing songs and nursery rhymes
- Talking about experiences and feelings
- Listening and following simple instructions
- Taking turns and sharing with others



# Physical Development and Healthy Habits

- Climbing, jumping, running and playing
- Doing puzzles and using scissors
- Going to bed on time and eating well
- Brushing teeth twice daily



# Supporting Additional Needs

- Share information with your child's new teacher
- Early intervention is key
- Discuss any developmental concerns
- Visit [startingreception.co.uk](https://startingreception.co.uk) for more resources



# Weekly Routine

Forest School is every **Wednesday**

Ensure your child has wellington boots, jogging bottoms, long sleeved t-shirt and a coat for the colder months

PE is every **Thursday**

PE kit; t-shirt, shorts and pumps