

## Reception—Spring Term 2025!

### Happy New Year—Welcome back!

On behalf of the Reception team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their support and patience whilst we have settled our gorgeous 24/25 Reception cohort into the Twiss Green Community Primary School family! We hope you are as impressed by their amazing progress so far as we are, they have worked their socks off!

Next term, we will continue to have myself (Mrs Ollerton) in class as the full-time teacher, except for Tuesday afternoons, this is when Mrs Bishop will be covering my PPA time to plan each of our exciting lessons for the week to follow! We have a fantastic team of adults who will continue to support the children's learning in Reception, but the adults who will spend each day in class with your children are myself and Mrs Bishop and we are super lucky to have Mrs Briggs and Mrs Hoolihan supporting us too.

As always, if you have any further questions, or matters you wish to discuss, I am always happy to chat - feel free to make an appointment if you need to, or if it's a quick query you will be able to catch me before or after school most days!

Here's to a super 2025!

### PE and Outdoor Days

Next term, your child will have 1 PE day per week where your child is required to come into school wearing their PE kit. This will be **Monday** only.

We will also be taking part in outdoor learning another afternoon each week, this will vary dependent upon weather, however please ensure that your child has wellies in school and a named bag with spare clothes, particularly socks. On this day your child will come to school wearing their school uniform and will then put on their wellies and waterproof clothing (we have lots of waterproof suits in Reception).

### Homework

The learning that takes place in Reception forms a huge part of the foundation to your child's school life and education. To prepare children and provide them with the best possible start, it is important that we encourage children to be as independent as possible both at home and school. Homework will continue to be sent home over the Spring term.

This will consist of a phonics overview sheet, phonics reading/writing and maths. Homework will be sent home on Friday's and is **to be returned to school by the following Thursday**, so that it can be marked and new homework can be added to your child's folder.

We really appreciate your support!

### Phonics

This half term, your child will be learning all of their Phase 3 phonics sounds. These include digraphs (two letters that make one sound) and trigraphs (three letters that make one sound). For example, /ai/ in 'rain' and /igh/ in 'light.'

[Phase 3 Flashcards](#)—Flashcards are available on Amazon via the link above. These are a great way to play games and embed phonics learning with your child at home.

## Spring Term 2025

### Literacy

Our theme for Spring 1 is 'Space' and we will be exploring texts such as Star in the Jar, How to Catch a Star, Aliens Love Underpants.

Our theme for Spring 2 is 'Superheroes' and we will be exploring texts such as Juniper Jupiter, Supertato, A Superhero Like You.

Over the next term we will be:

- Continuing a rhyming string
- Using descriptive language
- Re-telling stories
- Writing words with digraphs and trigraphs
- Reading and writing short phrases

### Reading & Phonics

At Twiss Green we follow a phonics scheme called Little Wandle. Our first term was spent learning phase 2 phonics sounds, practising letter formation and blending sounds together to read short, decodable words.

In the Spring term, your child's reading book will continue to be closely matched with their phonetic ability. Little Wandle is a well-developed scheme approved by the Department for Education (DFE) which states that *'it is crucial that children are able to read their reading book with at least 90% accuracy. If children have an accuracy rate below 90%, then they do not have enough fluency in reading the GPCs and words at the level they were tested. This could be a barrier to progress and affect the child's confidence.'* For this reason, your child's reading book may seem simple, however this is intentional and will support your child on their reading journey. Developing fluency within reading is crucial to your child's next step in their reading journey and we ask that you support your child at home by reading regularly and encouraging your child to put whole sentences together after sounding out each word. **A new reading book will be sent home each Friday and must be returned to school the following Thursday** in order to be collected for reallocation the next day. In order to keep a strong supply of reading books, there may be a charge incurred if these are not returned or are damaged.

### Maths

In maths, this term we will:

- Continue to learn about numbers 1-10 and explore counting up to and beyond 20.
  - Order numbers, linking cardinal and ordinal representations of number.
- Continue to compare sets by matching, identifying when sets are equal
  - Begin to link even numbers to doubles
- Explore symmetrical patterns, in which each side is a familiar pattern, linking this to 'doubles'

### Reading for pleasure

In addition to your child's phonetic reading book (as described in the above section), your child will continue to be able to choose one book from our class library to take home and share with their special grown ups. This book is not decodable and is therefore NOT for your child to read independently, it is to develop reading for pleasure and a love of stories with their grown ups at home. Reading stories is key to children's language development.

