Parent Overview – Reception October 2026

Reading

As part of our phonics sessions, children's learning will focus on the fluency of reading all letter sounds and will begin to "synthesise" these sounds. **We will aim for your child to be able to read all letter sounds by the end of the autumn term and to be able to blend sounds to read words (synthesise).** Children that can read all their letter sounds will have a "worded book" as well as their "pink phonics book". Additionally, each week the children will explore a new book that will be the catalyst for many learning opportunities. During individual reading, our priority is to ensure confident acquisition and application of phonics skills.

Writing

We will model the skills to sound out and record phonetic words and common exception words in order to formulate a sentence. Children will learn to use a letter mat to aid independent writing. **We will aim for all children to be able to hear initial and final sounds when recording a word. Some children will be able to hear medial sounds too.**

Handwriting

This term **we will be focusing on the correct positioning for holding a pen/pencil. Children will focus on the formation of ladder letters and will be introduced to curly caterpillar letters.** Curly caterpillar family – c, a, o, d, g, e, f, s, q
Ladder letters – t, y, j, u, l, i

Number

Our priority here is for children to confidently recognise, write and order numbers 0-10. We will represent numbers using different objects, as well as solving problems and justifying our answers. When counting we will first estimate the quantity of sets of objects. We will compare and order numbers and use practical equipment to find 1 more and 1 less. Regularly, we will rehearse counting forwards to 20 and back from 20.

Please remember it is open door policy at Mersea Island School before and after school. The best way to contact us is to email the class account or call after school and we will endeavor to speak to you in a timely fashion.

Your child needs their P.E. kit in school and they need to bring their water bottle and reading folder into school every day.

PE day is Friday



Dates to remember

Tuesday 3rd November
Welcome back to school

Thursday 12th November
Parents Evening

Wednesday 10th December
Reception and Nursery Christmas show @ 9.00am Main Hall

Thursday 11th December
Reception and Nursery Christmas Show @ 2.30pm Main Hall

Friday 11th December – Sunday 13th December
Christmas Tree Festival at the Free Church (Please go and vote for the best tree)

Friday 18th December
Wear your Christmas Jumper
School Christmas Dinner
Last day of term
Our school day is
8.45am – 3.15pm



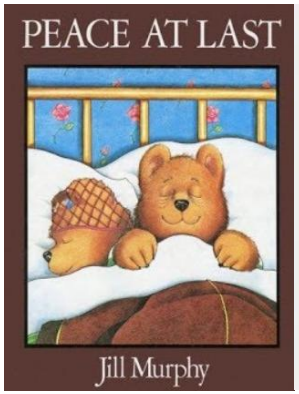
How can you help?

- When talking with your child, make a conscious effort to expand vocabulary and refine grammar, this will prove invaluable in their written work!
- Use real life situations to practise maths e.g. when setting the dinner table, when counting totals of coins.
- Encourage your child to practise their writing skills at home – Help your children to hear the sounds in words and use the letter mat to help independent letter formation.
- Share any home learning/experiences on Tapestry – these are used to support speaking and listening opportunities daily.
- Practise regular reading of school and library books. The school expectation is to read a minimum of **four days out of seven**. Don't forget to sign your child's reading record so we know if you have read.
- This term we will continue to send home sounds/decodable words to reinforce in class learning. These will be updated regularly.

This half term our topic is

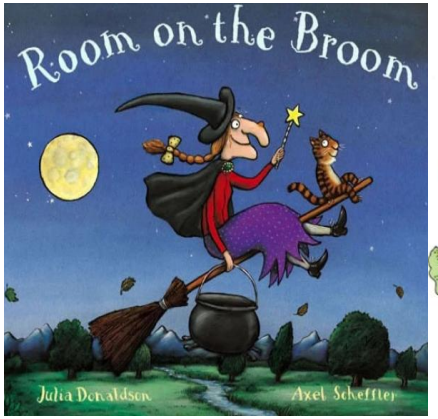


The following key texts will drive all areas of our curriculum. We would be grateful if you could support our learning by encouraging the children to become familiar with these stories





- Goldilocks and the three bears
- The three little pigs
- Little red riding hood
- Room on the broom
- The Gruffalo
- Peace at last





We will also be learning the following songs and rhymes to support our learning across the curriculum.

- 5 little speckled frogs
- 5 currant buns in a baker's shop
- When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
- One man went to mow
- The days of the week song - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AvNq2CQnOI