

Learning in Reception - Autumn 2026

Welcome

We would like to welcome you to Pilton Infants' Academy. It has been wonderful to meet you all and we have really enjoyed the beginning of term. The children are settling well into school life.



Autumn term topic - Superheroes

This term our topic is 'Superheroes'. We will be linking this topic to the areas of learning in the Foundation Stage curriculum. For Example, the children will be learning about real life super heroes e.g. nurses, fire fighters and doctors. Our focus texts are Supertato and We're Going on a Bear Hunt. We will also be having a superhero party where the children wear the capes they have been designing and making in school.

Our focus will initially be helping the children to feel settled and happy in their new school. There will be lots of opportunities for the children to interact together and get to know the adults in their setting. We will introduce the children to our schools' learning heroes over the coming weeks. You can find more information about them on our website in the 'Curriculum' section of the school website.

Reading at Home

Reading regularly at home will enable your child to practise the reading skills we teach at school. Regular practise leads to better progress and increased confidence with reading. At the moment your child is bringing home picture books from the class library. Please share these together, for example as a bedtime story. Please talk about the features of the book such as the front cover, back cover, title and the blurb. Before you finish the book, you could talk about what you think might happen next.

In the coming weeks you will be getting a book for your child to practice reading at home. These will be sent home weekly and will need to come back into school to be changed each week. They are exactly matched to the sounds we are learning in phonics. There will also be sharing books. These simple texts can be shared with your child and give you and them the opportunity to enjoy a book together.

Maths

We begin maths in Reception by singing songs involving numbers and counting. We will practise counting accurately. Our main focus initially this term will be on the numbers to five – learning about how they can be composed and decomposed, knowing one more or one less and lots of subitising (recognising how many objects there are without counting). We will be focussing on counting to deepen our understanding that larger groups are made of ones. We will be comparing groups of objects saying which group is more and which group is less.

Please use language such as heavier, lighter, longer, and shorter to describe things. You can use the names of common 2-D shapes to describe everyday objects.



ABC Poster



Phonics and Writing

The children have already started daily phonics sessions, during which they will learn the sounds letters make, how to blend sounds into words and how to segment words into sounds. The children learn four sounds each week and they practice saying the sound with a short phrase to help them learn how the letter(s) is formed. Our writing curriculum is based around the pre-writing shapes to start with. Our writing curriculum is based around Drawing Cub sessions are done on whiteboards with a pen initially and then into their writing books. We focus on holding our pens with our crocodile grip and writing from the left side to the right side. When we form the pre-writing shapes we are aiming for correct formation and consistency in size and shape.