

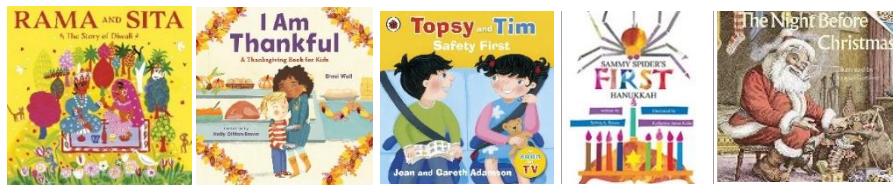


A successful first half-term.

Our new Reception pupils had an excellent first half term. We were extremely impressed by how well they settled into attending school and their new daily routines. We would like to thank parents/carers for your continued support, which has allowed the children to make such a positive start at Greenside and culminated in a very successful Halloween theme day.

Themes

This half-term, many of our learning themes will be based around the over-arching topic of 'Let's Celebrate'. In particular, our learning will focus on Diwali, Remembrance Day, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas during different weeks this half term. We will also be marking Road Safety Week and Anti-Bullying Week in our learning too. As always, our themes remain flexible so that we can adapt to specific interests of the children. Some of our key texts this half term will include:



Maths

This half-term, we will be covering the units 'Circle and Triangles', '1,2,3,4,5' and 'Shapes with 4 Sides.' During the '1,2,3,4,5' unit, we will be learning to subitise, represent, find 1 more and 1 less and explore the composition of numbers to 5. During our other units, we will learn to identify, name, combine and compare shapes, as well as describe position and learn about day and night. We will use a range of key texts to support our Maths learning:



Phonics Groups

The children have now been divided into smaller groups for their daily phonics lessons. This allows pupils to access phonics learning and activities in a smaller group, giving school the opportunity to provide a more targeted support with reading and writing.

Phonics and Reading at home:

On Fridays, pupils will continue to bring home sounds and words that they have been learning so that they can continue to practise them at home. As they learn more sounds and make progress with blending these together, pupils will start to bring home 'Blending Books' with single words and 'Ditty Sheets' with sentences to read, before eventually being given home reader books once they are on Red level.

Inside the front cover of their planner, your child also has log-in details for '**Oxford Owl**', which is a digital phonics and reading platform linked to the RWI scheme. Your child's class teacher will assign appropriate activities for your child to read. Simply go to www.oxfordowl.co.uk and use the log-in details provided.

Key Words:

Your child will now have received a wallet containing 'key words' to learn and practise at home. Key words are words that your child will come across regularly but can't be phonetically decoded (i.e. can't be sounded out and blended together) and therefore must be learnt by sight. There are six sets of key words for pupils to learn as they progress through Reception and into Year 1:

Set 1: the, to, I, no, go, into

Set 2: he, she, we, me, be, was

Set 3: you, they, all, are, my, her

Set 4: said, have, like, so, do, some, come

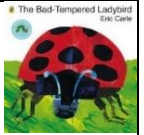
Set 5: were, there, little, one, when, out, what

Set 6: oh, their, people, Mr, Mrs, looked, called, asked, could

Once your child knows a set, please leave a note in their school planner; we will then check and issue the next set of flash cards. Reception staff will also periodically check how your child is getting on with recognising their key words. Further information, including ideas to help your child learn these words can be found in the letter that came with the flashcards.

PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)

In Reception, we are continually supporting our pupils to develop their personal, social and emotional skills, which provide important foundations for future learning. This half-term, our PSED learning will focus on supporting pupils to recognise their personal feelings and developing strategies for dealing with positive and negative emotions. Later on in the half-term, we will be teaching pupils how to manage their own needs, including the importance of personal hygiene and how to take responsibility for classroom tasks and routines. We will be using the book 'The Bad-Tempered Ladybird' to support our PSED learning this half-term.



Early Years Curriculum

For further information about our Early Years curriculum, including details on all the key texts that we use, please visit: <https://www.greenside-sch.org/curriculum/> where you find a link to our EY Curriculum Map.

Online Learning Platforms: Oxford Owl and Numbots

Inside the front cover of their planner, your child has log-in details for 'Bug Club' and 'Numbots'.



Oxford Owl is a digital phonics and reading platform. Your child's class teacher will assign appropriate activities for your child. Simply go to www.oxfordowl.co.uk and use the log-in details provided.



'Numbots' is a fun and engaging Maths program which supports your child's learning of counting, subsidising and calculating. Go to www.play.numbots.com or download the app.

House Teams

All pupils at Greenside are a member of one of our four House Teams. These are **Kirkstall Abbey House (Yellow)**, **Roche Abbey House (Red)**, **Bolton Abbey House (Blue)** and **Fountains Abbey House (Green)**. Pupils collect House Points or 'Dojos' as a reward for showcasing our 'Great at Greenside' rules and applying their 'Learning Powers'. These points count towards individual and house team totals. Details of your child's house team can be found inside their school planner.

Bringing Toys to School

We kindly request that pupils **do not** bring any toys or stationery into school for home. This is to avoid items from becoming lost or damaged. We have plenty of toys and resources for the children to use.

We also request that pupils do not bring in items to share with or gift to other pupils, as this can often lead to misunderstandings and fallings out. If your child does have something to gift to a friend, we kindly request this is done outside of school.

Please give any party invitations to your child's class teacher so that these can be placed discretely into book bags.

PE

This half-term, Reception will be starting indoor PE lessons, which will be taught weekly on **Tuesday mornings**. On PE days, your child will still need to come to school in their school uniform, with their **PE kit in a named bag** already in school. Your child will need trainers or pumps, black tracksuit trousers, leggings or shorts, a white or bottle green PE t-shirt and a bottle green hoody (pupils may wear their school jumper or cardigan instead of a hoody). PE kit can be purchased from our school uniform provider:

<https://www.whittakersschoolwear.co.uk/product-category/leeds/greenside-primary-school-pudsey>.

We will send home your child's PE kit to be washed on the final week of each half term. Please note the colour of the PE bag is your choice but **please ensure both the bag and all items inside it, including shoes, are named**.

Arts and Crafts

As you will be starting to notice, our Reception pupils love nothing more than crafting and collaging with a range of recycled materials. To support us with keeping this area stocked, please bring any recycling from home. This will allow the children to upcycle and recreate some amazing masterpieces to share with you at home time.

For hygiene reasons, please do not send in toilet rolls and ensure that items are cleaned beforehand.

Celebration Assembly

Celebration Assembly for Reception and Key Stage 1 will take place fortnightly on Fridays at 9am. If your child has been chosen to receive an award, you will receive a text inviting you to attend the assembly so that you are able to celebrate with your child.

Dates for your diary

10.11.25 – Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying Week).

12.11.25 – EYFS Open Evening

14.11.25 – Children in Need (non-uniform day).

26.11.25 – Reception Height, Weight & Vision Check (School Nurses). [More information](#).

3.12.25 – FROGS Christmas Fayre (3:15pm).

9.12.25 – Flu Vaccinations.

11.12.25 – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumpers.

15.12.25 – EY & KS1 Back Chat Brass Workshop

16.12.25 – Reception Nativity Afternoon Performance (2pm).

17.12.25 – Reception Nativity Morning Performance (9:30am).

19.12.25 – Last Day of Term.

5.1.25 – Children return to school.