



Reception News



September 2026

Meet The Team

In Mango Class:



Miss Riches is our teacher



Mrs Eagles is our teaching assistant

In Kiwi Class:



Miss Clarke and Mrs Starie
are our teachers



Mrs Leonard is our teaching
assistant

It has been wonderful to see all of the children settling into their new classes so well. We have had a lot of smiles over the last week, as the children make new friends and learn the rules of their classrooms.

Lunches have been a big hit, and everyone is finding their feet by learning about Pete the Cat and his school shoes!

Our Topics:

Each week, we base our literacy learning around a book. This half term's theme is "Starry Night", during which we will look at the following books:

- Peace at Last
- Owl Babies
- Whatever Next
- How to Catch a Star



Sounds Write Phonics

This year we are introducing a new phonics scheme called 'Sounds Write' – a proven Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme validated by the Department for Education (DfE). It starts with what children learn naturally, the sounds of their own language, and teaches them to represent those sounds in writing. In Reception, children are taught the 'Initial Code' in daily phonics lessons.

Children in Reception have a 30-minute Sounds-Write session every day. Some children require more time and practice when learning to read and spell, and provision is made for them through 'keep-up' and 'catch-up' intervention sessions in addition to the whole class phonics sessions.

For more information about the scheme, please visit <https://sounds-write.co.uk/support-for-parents-and-carers>.



Tapestry

We have noticed that there are still a few parents who have not signed up for our online learning journey—Tapestry. It is a fantastic way to find out what your child gets up to at school. Please let us know if you need help registering.

Don't forget that you can upload photos/videos from home for us to share in class. We love to hear about your child's achievements and it is a valuable contribution to their learning journey.

PE

Your child will need to bring their PE kits to school in a named bag. Children will change out of their uniform in the classroom, into their PE kits. We are aware that some children will need some support to do this, so there will be adults on hand to help. As children will be changing in the same room, please ensure EVERYTHING is named to avoid losing items! The school PE kit is: a bottle green t-shirt, black shorts/jogging bottoms and trainers/sport shoes. Long hair should be tied back and earrings need to be removed on PE days.



Lunches

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. The menu can be found on the school website. Alongside the main menu, there is always a choice of jacket potato, tomato pasta, cheese/tuna/ham sandwiches. Children are asked to make their choice in the morning when they come into school. If you can help your child decide what they would like before coming into school that would be a big help to us!

<https://greateathacademy.attrust.org.uk/parents/lunch-menu/>

Wellies

You may have noticed that our outdoor area has lots of mud! To avoid your child's school shoes getting dirty, we will be asking the children to change into wellies before using the outside area when the weather is inclement. We ask that you send in a pair of wellie boots (named) for your child to use and leave at school. If you have any issues, please let your class teacher know.

How to contact us

If you have any questions, please speak to your teacher at the door. Alternatively you can message your child's class teacher on Class Dojo.

