GREAT HOLLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

What is happening in Reception?

2nd November 2026

Literacy



This week, we will be learning the traditional story of 'The Three Little Pigs' and making a story map to help us retell it. We will also read a book called 'The Rainbow Fish'. This is a story about a multi-coloured fish who is special and unique. We will talk about the characters, the setting and how their feelings and behaviour changed during the story.
In phonics, we will be revising the sounds we have learned that we are finding harder to remember. We are now in groups with other children at the same stage of reading as we are. We will all be learning sounds, practising oral blending and practising writing sounds in some words.

Maths



This week, the children will continue to engage with activities that underline the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are altogether. They will reinforce their understanding of cardinality (the number in a set) and practise their 1:1 correspondence skill, by counting numbers at the same time as moving or tagging objects.

A key focus this week is deepening their understanding of 5 as a quantity by linking the number itself to the 5 fingers on one hand. The children will also begin to explore ways to represent numbers to 5 using the Hungarian number pattern.

Topic



This week, we start our new topic on 'Special Times, People, Places and Things'. The Rainbow Fish is a very special fish and unique just like us! We are all special people and unique.

This week we have Bonfire Night and Diwali. We will think about the bright fireworks in the night sky and the sounds they make. We will explore the differences between day and night (light and dark). We will also make a model rocket!





Messages

We hope you all enjoyed our Harvest Celebration and how well the children performed their story, poem and songs. Thank you for the kind donations you made. We have taken these to the local food bank to support our community.

The post-its you wrote for your child's learning journey showed us how proud you are of the progress they are making in their learning and how hard they are working.

As we move into the colder months, please can you make sure the children have a warm, waterproof coat, ideally with a hood, and warm hats, gloves etc. Remember to name everything, including the gloves! If you can send in waterproof bottoms (or an all in one), they will be able to access more of the playground on wet days. All children still need wellies so they can use all the areas.

Please remember to return PE kits for our PE lessons on Fridays. Can you also remember to take out earrings or tape them up. Thank you!

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How can you help at home?

The children are now grouped for phonics according to their stage of reading. Some children are finding it difficult to remember their sounds and really need your help to practise them at home. Other children know quite a lot with just a few gaps but cannot yet orally blend. These children need help to practise their Fred Talk games at home (please see the links). All children need to keep practising their sounds and oral blending. Try and get faster saying the sounds and start orally blending some 4 sounds words like stop, once they can do 3 sound words. Please keep practising writing the sounds and developing fine motor skills.

Please share books and read to your child every night if you can. Try and develop a love of reading that will stay with them for the rest of their lives!

You can support your child's Maths learning by undertaking some of the suggested activities from the maths home learning. We will also sometimes send home ideas to support our topic learning.

Our Learning







If you have any comments, concerns or questions, please come and speak to Mrs Kalampaliki or Ms York.

We hope you all have a lovely week!