Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills: Skills including running, jumping, throwing, catching, balancing and negotiating space in the environment.
Fine Motor Skills: Handling small and large tools (e.g. Pens, spoons, cutlery, threading, tweezers etc).
Hand Washing, using lunch cutlery and talking about ways to be healthy and making healthy choices.
Play dough and construction.

Personal Social Emotional Development

Making friendships, sharing resources and learning routines.
Introduce 'High Five' and Safeguarding Hands.
Jigsaw PSHE, RHE curriculum. E-safety/PANTs/Pantosaurus.
How we are the same and different.
Talking about things we like and don't like.
Talking about things that are special to us.
Talking about important events as well as celebrations and festivals.

Communication and Language

Following instructions.
Listening, rhyming and circle time games.
Retelling stories and sequencing.
Talking partners
Role play and hot seating.
Answering and asking questions.
Singing, learning signs and language of the month.
Nursery Rhymes: ***See Reading Spine***

Expressive Art and Design

Action songs, rhymes and rhythm games
Music in daily routines - 'tidy up' and 'line up' song. **Music with Pete.**
Playing of tuned and untuned instruments during continuous provision.
Self-portraits in pen and paint.
Watercolours, colour mixing, printing, observational drawings, collage in mixed media, small loose parts pictures
Designing and baking birthday cakes, design constructions using graph paper: loose parts building, LEGO, Duplo, junk modelling.
Role-play corners and small world.

Topic Launch

Activities include Collective artwork, self-portraits, Chatty bags 'why are you special' discussion.

I wonder what is special about me?

Reception

Autumn Term

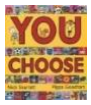
2026

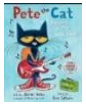
I am ~~KIND~~
I am SMART
I am SPECIAL
I am BRAVE
I am ENOUGH
I am ME!

Key Themes and books



Additional Texts





Characteristics of Effective Learning:

Playing and Exploring: Finding out and exploring, Playing with what they know and Being willing to 'have a go'.

Active learning: Being involved and concentrating, Keeping trying and Enjoying achieving what they set out to do.

Creative and Thinking Critically: Having their own ideas, Making links and Choosing ways to do things.

Maths

Number: Matching, sorting and comparing objects.
Representing, comparing and composition of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
Subitising to 5.
Recognising one more and one less in numbers up to 5.
Measure, shape and spatial thinking: Comparing size, mass and capacity.
Exploring Pattern.
Recognising circles, triangles, rectangles and squares.
Spatial awareness.
Recognising night and day.

Understanding the World

Forest School, exploring our school grounds – secret garden and playground
Discussing families/homes and beliefs.
Map work/ where we live.
Answering thoughtful questions about science and religion.
Using iPads, Interactive Whiteboard and E-safety.
Seasons, changes, Harvest and Autumn (Pumpkins), Bonfire Night, Diwali, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Winter
Habitats.

Reading and Writing

Attempt to mark make focusing on own name.
Begin to use correct pencil grip.
Give marks meaning. Mark making includes some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning.
Individual reading and reading for pleasure.
Little Wandle Letters and Sounds: See Phonics Progression
Write the initial sound in words.
Read, blend and segment CVC words.
Drawing Club