


Reception Newsletter



Our School Rules

Be safe. Be kind. Be responsible. 

Important dates

Half Term

Monday 27th October 2025 - Friday 31st October 2025

Non-Pupil Day

Wednesday 12th November 2025

Termly Learning Conference

Christmas Break

Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026

Welcome to White Hall!

The children have settled brilliantly having either a morning or afternoon session and now all having a full day at school. They have been learning basic class routines and the school rules, making new friends through play and some have even tried school dinners!

Our learning this half term

All About Me!

As part of this topic children will be focusing on well-being, ourselves, our position within our families and our local area. We will be looking at similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends and the roles of members of our family and the community. We will be looking at maps to find out about where we live.

Maths - we will be learning how to sort objects, match equal and compare sets, as well as learning all about numbers 1-5, patterns, 2d shapes and the night and day cycle.

Writing - we will be practising our fine and gross motor skills with various activities to get us ready for writing. Additionally, we will be learning to tell stories and act them out with story time sessions. This half term we will also practise recognising and writing our names using the correct letter formation.

Phonics - At White Hall, we follow the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* programme to teach phonics. This term, children will build on their early language and listening skills through rhymes, games, and oral blending activities, preparing them for formal phonics learning. Reception children begin by learning single letter sounds and Phase 2 phonemes through daily, structured lessons. They also take part in listening games and oral blending activities to develop phonological and phonemic awareness. As the term progresses, children start to read and spell simple words using the sounds they've learned, and are introduced to tricky words that don't follow regular phonics rules.

Further Support can be found via this link: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Polite Reminder

Please make sure all of your child's belongings are labelled, including uniform, water bottles, lunch boxes, coats, book bags and messy play clothes.

In other news...

Tapestry

All parents and carers should now have received an email inviting them to sign up for Tapestry. Please ensure you complete your registration as soon as possible, as this will be our main form of communication.

Once registered, you'll be able to communicate directly with your child's class teacher and receive important updates and photos.

Independence

Thank you for supporting your child to come into the classroom independently and with putting their coats on. This has really helped their self-confidence!

As part of the Early Years ethos, over this term we aim to enable each child to develop their independence. Ways in which you can help are:

- Encouraging them to use cutlery (knife and fork for main, spoon for dessert) at home.
- Beginning to dress themselves, e.g. take on and off a coat and/or jumper.
- Handwashing routines.
- Using the toilet and being independent with their self-care

Home learning

Thank you to all of the children who have been completing their home learning sheets. This is great consolidation of what we have been learning in class.

Please remember to read with your child at least 3 times a week. This can be any type of reading, and any book of their own choosing.

It will be also beneficial to practise some of the following with your child:

- Practise name writing and name recognition.
- Talk about healthy eating and living, encouraging brushing teeth, drinking and eating healthy drinks and snacks, balanced diets etc.
- Play games to encourage turn taking and sharing.
- Practise letter formation of the letters that have been taught so far.
- Practise reading tricky word cards.

SAFETY REMINDERS

We would politely like to remind you that we are a **nut free school** and there are children within our cohort with severe nut allergies that require epi-pens. Please refrain from sending in foods that contain nuts or nut traces.

Drinks: Please supply **water** in a **named water bottle** for children to drink throughout the day. They will be encouraged to drink and go to the toilet frequently. No fruit shoots, energy drinks or pure juice please.

Sweets: As a healthy school we do not permit children to bring sweets in lunch boxes or pockets.

Messy Play

Children will always take part in messy play as part of our Early Years curriculum. It engages the children to use their senses to work their bodies to help with writing, plus encourages good communication skills and builds their vocabulary. Children are encouraged to wear aprons, but may come home a little dirty to show they've participated in purposeful play.