



Reception Newsletter

Autumn 1 2026



<http://www.portsdownprimary.co.uk/>

Welcome to Bumblebee class

It has been wonderful to see how well your children have started school this week. We are enjoying meeting you all at the parents meetings before the Summer holidays. We are looking forward to an exciting year of fantastic learning opportunities.



Mrs Corps



Mrs Hounsell



Mrs Reynolds



Our new classroom

Diary Dates

Half term

22nd October Trip to the Woods
(letter to follow)

Week beginning 26th October: Half
term holiday

Water bottles

Please pack a bottle filled strictly with plain water for the classroom. If your child would like squash at lunchtime, please could that be in a separate bottle

Snacktime

Children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable everyday.

PE

Reception have PE lessons on Monday afternoons.

The children can come into school in their PE kit on their PE day. They need black shorts, white t shirt and plimsoles. Please can you ensure that everything is labelled.

Wow moments

Attached to our newsletter is a WOW moment card. This is for you to celebrate any new learning or skills that you have seen your child achieve at home.

It could be to do with their reading or writing. It could be that they can now ride a bike without stabilisers or have learnt a new skill in swimming or gymnastics.

Please fill in the card and return it to school so we can celebrate with the children.

Reading

In Reception we send children home with a book to share with you. Please encourage your child to talk about what they can see happening in the pictures and what they think might happen next?

Please try to read with your child at least 4 times a week and tick on the home reading sheet.

Personal and social development

We will be supporting the children to settle in and develop their independence skills. They will be getting to know the classroom, school and each other.

The children will be naming and talking about their feelings.

Communication and language

There will be a strong emphasis on talk. They will be sharing their interests and talk about themselves.

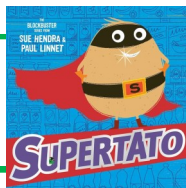
They will develop their skills in listening to each other, particularly with waiting their turn and letting others speak.

Physical development

The children will be developing skills in whole body movement and also fine motor skills to practice holding pencils with a comfortable grip.

They are enjoying taking the video of Crocodile Snap to support their fine motor skills.

<https://www.griffinot.com/supporting-pencil-grasp-development/crocodile-snap-childrens-song/>



Maths

The children will spend the first term matching, sorting and comparing amounts using the language of 'more than' and 'fewer'. They will be subitising amounts to 4 and also begin to look at how to represent the numbers 1, 2 and 3 in different ways

Literacy

The children will be listening to a range of stories, such as Supertato and You choose. They will also be singing a range of Nursery Rhymes.

The children will be encouraged to talk about the drawing and mark making they create. There will also be opportunities to practise writing their name.

Phonics

The children will be beginning their phonic learning by identifying initial sounds and practising segmenting and blending simple words, such as in and sat.

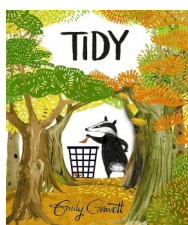
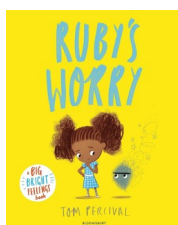
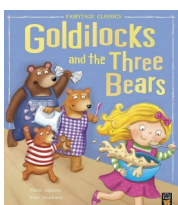
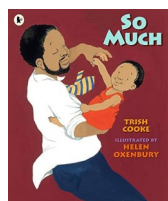
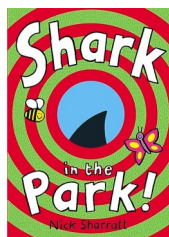
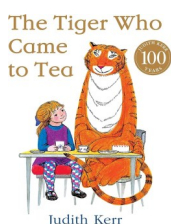
Each week we will send home information about what they children have been learning that week in phonics.

Expressive Arts and design

The children will be exploring a range of materials to create models and pictures. They will be exploring different ways of changing paper, such as folding and cutting.

The children will be learning new poems as well as joining in with a range of Nursery Rhymes and Action songs.

Our Super Six books for this half term



Understanding the World

The children will be exploring and getting to know their school environment.

They will be talking about themselves and their families. They will identify similarities and differences about each other.