

# Reception Newsletter

Spring 1  
2026

Raleigh Infant and  
Admirals Academies

## Welcome

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a great start to the New Year. We hope you are looking forward to beginning the Spring term, with lots of fun learning in store!

Make sure to regularly check **Tapestry** to see the latest updates of learning within Reception, as well as how you can support your child at home. Home learning is set every **Friday**, for us to share in



class the following **Thursday**.

Please also upload any other learning that takes place outside of school - we value all learning!

## Important Dates



- 6/01/26—start of spring 1.
- 13/02/26—end of spring 1.

## Wider Curriculum

Our learning theme in **PKC** for this half term is **Space**. We will be learning about stars, planets, space exploration and more! We will be using ambitious vocabulary in our learning, including words such as 'atmosphere', 'gravity', and 'solar system'. We will also be exploring artists, such as the composer **Holst** and painter **Jackson**

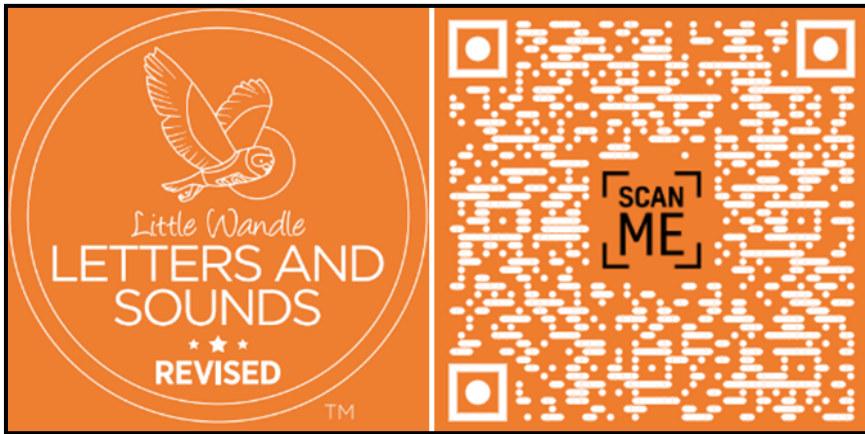
**Pollock**, and how their work can inspire our learning about Space.

**PE** is every **Friday**. Your child needs to come to school in their PE kit. This half term we will be focusing on the fundamentals, including moving in different ways with balance and control.

In **RE** we will be exploring how people around the world celebrate in different ways. In **PSHE** this term, we will be focusing on: challenges, perseverance, achieving and setting goals, over coming obstacles, seeking help and jobs.



More information can be found online at [www.raleighinfant.co.uk](http://www.raleighinfant.co.uk)



## Phonics

We will be continuing to embed our knowledge of Phase 2 **Phonics** this half term and in addition, we will learn new **Phase 3 Phonics**. We will be learning new graphemes and tricky words, as well as practicing the skills of oral blending, word reading, and spelling.

Make sure to check Tapestry each week to see what we have learnt and how you can support at home. Scan the code above for a link to the **Little Wandle** Parents Area. Regular practice will support your child's reading exponentially!

## Our Key Focus

### Independent writing

One of our focus areas for this half term is developing children's independent writing skills. This involves the children using their phonics to hear and record the sounds in words. Developing their independence to do this will support the children in becoming confident, independent and fluent writers.



#### How could you help at home?

- Encourage your child to *have a go* at writing words by sounding them out using their phonics, rather than copying adult-written words. Encourage this into sentences as confidence grows.
- Praise effort over accuracy - spellings may not be correct yet, and that's okay! Using the sounds they hear is the goal!
- Provide opportunities for purposeful writing such as shopping lists, cards and short messages.

## Literacy



In **Literacy**, we use 'Drawing Club' to develop children's fine motor skills, creative thinking, alongside their writing. Our key texts this half term will be '**Aliens Love Underpants**' by Claire Freedman & Ben Cort, '**How to Catch a Star**' by Oliver Jeffers, and '**Night Monkey, Day Monkey**' by Julia Donaldson.

When practicing writing at home, please encourage your child to use their growing phonics knowledge to spell. In Reception words do not need to be spelt correctly, just 'phonetically plausible'.

## Mathematics



In **Maths** this half term we will be building upon the skills developed last half term. Our key mathematical learning themes will include developing our **subitising** skills, **matching** and **ordering** numerals, exploring the **composition** of numbers, and **comparing** amounts.



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