

Weston Mill Community Primary Academy, Ferndale Road, Plymouth, PL2 2EL

Telephone: 01752 365250

Email: westonmill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk

Website: www.westonmill.plymouth.sch.uk

Friday 11th September 2026

Smeaton – Term 1 – Curriculum Letter

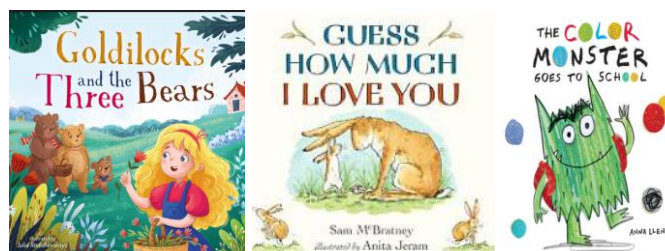
Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our ongoing commitment to sharing more information about the curriculum with families, we have created a curriculum letter outlining the key learning and important information for the term ahead. We hope this will give you a helpful overview of what your child will be learning and experiencing throughout their first term in Reception.

This term, our Reception topic is 'This is Me'. As the children begin their school journey, we will spend time getting to know them, their families and their friends. We will explore what makes each of us unique, looking at our similarities and differences and celebrating the different faiths and cultures represented in our world. Our big question is 'What is a Family?' and the children will take part in rich experiences including sharing baby photographs, creating a family tree, going on a Welly Walk and learning about special people in our lives and community.



In Literacy, we will enjoy and talk about a range of stories, including The Colour Monster Goes to School, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Guess How Much I Love You. The children will develop their ability to retell and sequence familiar stories and use new vocabulary. They will begin learning letter sounds, blending sounds orally and developing their early writing by writing letters from their name, representing initial sounds and drawing with increasing meaning and accuracy.



Then in Maths, the children will begin with baseline activities before starting Mastering Number. Our learning will focus on subitising, counting, ordinality and cardinality, composition and comparison, helping the children to build secure foundations in early number.



Finally, through Personal, Social and Emotional Development, the children will be supported to settle confidently into Reception, build positive relationships, understand and follow our class rules, talk about their feelings and develop independence with their own care needs. In Communication and Language, we will focus on careful listening, speaking in full sentences, following instructions and using new vocabulary. In RE, our unit is 'Being special: where do we belong?', where children will explore belonging, special experiences and how babies are welcomed in different religions.

Learning at Home

At home, you can support your child by sharing books together regularly and talking about the characters, events and new vocabulary. Encourage them to practice recognising and writing their name, talk about the sounds they are learning in school, and notice small groups of objects and numbers in everyday life. Talking together about family, feelings, interests and what makes them special will also support our learning this term.

In Reception, children will have a Home Learning Book, which should remain in their school bag each day. A piece of home learning will be sent home every Friday and should be completed and returned to school by the following Thursday.

Children will also bring home a library book each week. This book should be kept in their school bag when not being shared at home. We encourage you to enjoy this book together, talking about the story, pictures and characters and developing a love of reading.

Children will shortly begin bringing home their reading books. These should remain in their school bag every day, as staff will regularly read with children in school. Please also read and share these books at home to support your child in developing their early reading skills.



Best wishes,
Ms. Bradfield and Mrs. Gray
Class Teachers

Weston Mill Community Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs. E Lenszner

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Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) - Term 1

Our 'This is Me' learning in Reception

Settling into Reception

I will grow in confidence in new social situations and become familiar with our Reception routines.

Building Relationships

I will play with other children, extend our ideas together and begin to find solutions when conflicts happen.

Understanding Feelings

I will talk about my feelings using words such as 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' and 'worried'.

Rules and Responsibility

I will learn to follow our class rules and begin to understand why rules are important.

Growing Independence

I will become more independent with my own care needs, including handwashing, toileting and getting dressed with support.

Family and Belonging

I will explore our big question, 'What is a Family?', learn about my special people and celebrate what makes each of us unique.