



# Weekly Newsletter

## Autumn Term 1

Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025



### A Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents,  
Welcome back and a warm welcome to our Reception starters! It has been a fantastic first week and great to meet all the new starters and welcome everyone back. I do hope you all had a lovely break; the children have enjoyed sharing some of their exciting adventures with us all. I have heard about visits to theme parks and rollercoasters, beaches, holidays abroad, park trips and days out in London. There is a lot happening this term so please make sure you read the newsletter weekly. As always if you wish to meet with me or any other member of staff, please call the office to arrange an appointment.

#### Welcome

There are a few new faces this year so please make them feel welcome when you see them. Miss Monique and Miss Angela have joined the Year 1 team. I am sure you will make them feel part of the Grange community.

#### Meet the teacher

Some of you have already had your Meet the Teacher meetings, all presentations shared will be on our school website shortly if you missed this meeting. Next week meetings will be held for Years 4, 5, and 6. You will have the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out what will be happening this term for your child's class. Once presentations have been given you can find out the information by visiting our parent coffee morning/workshop [page](#)

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Sep 9.15am – Yr 4**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Sep 9.15am – Yr 5**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Sep 9.15am – Yr 6**

#### Homework

By the end of the day on Friday your child will have received their topic homework scrap book, homework sheet, class newsletter and a reading book and diary for their book bag. Please support your child and read with them as often as you can. Prizes and awards are given for reading at home. We recommend reading every day for at least 10 minutes, however we understand many of you work and this might not be possible. If this is the case perhaps read multiple times at the weekend and sign the diary each time you read together! Reading Eggs, Timetable Rockstars (Yr2 – 6) and Mathematics passwords will be printed and given out by the end of next week. Weekly maths homework will be set by class teachers in Year 2-6 for children to complete.

#### Water bottles

All classes have a box for children to store their water bottles in. These boxes are taken to the playground for children to refill at lunch and play. Please ensure you provide a labelled water bottle for your children each day.

#### Uniform

We will hold a nearly new uniform sale next Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September when you will be able to pick up some uniform if you need any. Please remember to dress your child in full school uniform daily. Children are expected to wear dark grey bottoms (skirt, shorts or trousers) a white polo shirt or shirt and tie, a school jumper or cardigan.

#### PE days

Please remember to send your child's PE kit to school each week on a Monday and remind your child to bring it home for a wash on Friday. Children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 only may come to school in their PE kit on the day they have PE. PE kits are part of our uniform, children are expected to wear black shorts or tracksuit bottoms, a plain white t-shirt. PE kits should be labelled with your child's name and class.

#### Congratulations

Over the summer Miss Mary Phillip was offered an amazing opportunity. Mary has been offered a job coaching football coaches for the FA. This is a fantastic opportunity which Mary is perfect for. However, this is sad news for Grange as Mary will be leaving our school after 9 years. Next Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September will be Mary's last day with us. This is a huge loss for the school but it is a whole new adventure for Mary. We know, that along with us, you will wish her all the best in her new post. Good luck Mary, keep in touch!

#### Walking home alone 2025-26

If you have a child in **Year 5 or 6** and you wish for them to walk home alone this will only be authorised once we have permission in writing from you. Please email the school office to request the walk home alone form. [office@grange.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@grange.southwark.sch.uk)

#### Online Safety Tip of the Week

Talk about it:

- Start conversations when your children will not be embarrassed, for example on your journey home from school. Try to de-personalise it by asking their opinion on a current news story that relates to an online issue.
- Be proactive – don't wait until something has already gone wrong – discuss issues ahead of time – knowing what children of a similar age are doing will help you know more about the environment that your child is living in.
- Ask them for advice on how to do something online and use this as a conversation starter.
- Make sure they know they can come to you if they are upset by something they have seen online – listen to them when they do and try not to overact – the important thing is that they have come and told you!
- Be sensitive and praise them when they share their online experiences with you
- If your child comes to you with an issue, stay calm and listen without judging them
  - Talk about online grooming as you would stranger danger and explain that people they meet online might not be who they say they are
  - Ask them about things online which might make them (or others) uncomfortable.

Have a great weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week. See you on Monday at **8.50am**.

Rebecca



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# School Information

## Attendance & Punctuality Class Winners of The Week

School Year Autumn Term	Class	%
Attendance KS1 Winner		
Attendance KS2 Winner		
KS1 Punctuality Winner		
KS2 Punctuality Winner		
Class	Punctuality %	Attendance %
Venus		
Earth		
Mars		
Jupiter		
Galaxy		
Supernova		
Neptune		
Aurora		
Sky		
Whole school		






Coming Soon!

## Dates for the Diary

Important  
DATE!

5/9/25	Class newsletters and homework projects sent to parents
8/9/25	Year 4 Meet the Teacher
9/9/25	Year 5 Meet the Teacher
10/09/25	Year 6 Meet the Teacher + secondary application meeting
15/09/25	Reception baseline assessments
15/09/25	Assessment baseline week – whole school
19/09/25	Nursery and Reception – Reading Together coffee afternoon – 2.45pm Albert McKenzie Hall
26/09/25	SEND parent coffee morning 9am Middle Hall
26/09/25	Yr 1 and 2 – Reading Together coffee afternoon – 2.45pm, Albert McKenzie Hall
26/09/25	National Teaching Assistant day
29/09/25	Parent Reading Together sessions begin for all parents 3.10 – 3.25
30/09/25	Individual pupil photos
01/10/25 – 31/10/25	Black History month
02/10/25	National Poetry Day
05/10/25	World Teachers Day
06/10/25	Nursery REAL homestart parent session
06/10/25	Yr 3 and 4 – Reading parent workshop –9.15am, Albert McKenzie Hall
07/10/25	Yr 5 and 6 – Reading parent workshop –9.15am, Albert McKenzie Hall
08/10/25	Year 6 residential meeting
13/10/25 – 15/10/25	Year 6 residential – Marchants Hill
22/10/25 & 23/10/25	Parents evening
24/10/25	Big Draw art event
27 <sup>th</sup> October – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half term

## House Winners

Tim Peake 	
Stephanie Wilson 	
Neil Armstrong 	
Helen Sharman 	
Bernard Harris 	



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### Word of the Week

The word of the week this week is "elusive". Please spend some time discussing this word with your child.

### Shinobi Word of the Day

**Word of the Day:** elusive

**Word Class:** (adjective)

**Pronunciation / Syllables:** (e-lu-sive)

**Definition:**  
Something or someone that is elusive is difficult to find, describe, remember, or achieve.

**Mrs Hepson's PE whistle had become rather elusive.**

**Phrases:** he could remember the elusive the forgotten and hard to find

**Synonym:** evasive slippery

**Antonym:**

**Prefix / Suffix:** -ness -ly

**Rhyme:** exclusive abusive

**Link Word:** person character

### Value of the Week

The value of the week this week was "Love". Please take some time over the weekend to discuss this value with your children.

"The best thing in life are not things they are your friends" (Anonymous)



### Makaton Word of the Week

Along with our word of the week, our children will now be learning some sign language. We have many pupils at Grange that are non-verbal and one of the ways in which we communicate with them is to use sign language. We want all our children to be able to communicate with each other so felt that teaching our children to sign would help this. Please help us to learn together by practising this with your child at home.



To Swim

**Happy Birthday to You!**

First Name	Age	Class
Isabel	5	Star
Enzo	9	Galaxy
Roman	9	Galaxy
Royce	9	Supernova
Mohamed	11	Aurora
Nyima	9	Galaxy
Nasir	7	Mars



### Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned





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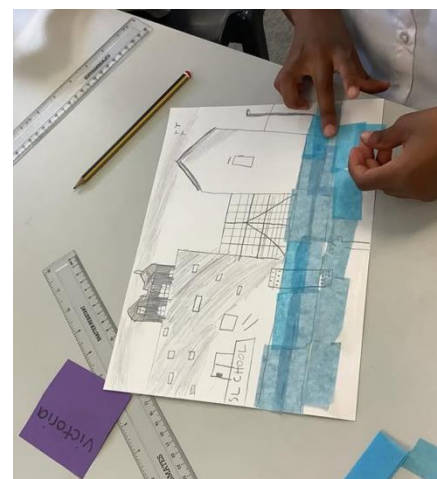
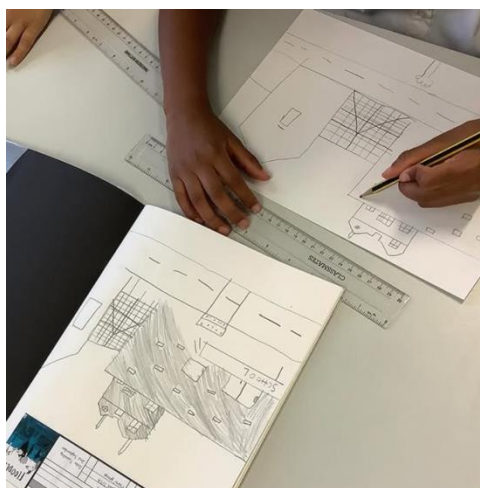
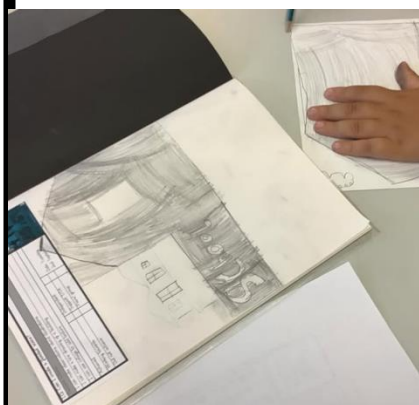
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## Class Gallery

### Year 3 –Jupiter Class

Year 3 have been reading the whole school text this week. They have been creating pieces inspired by illustrator and author, Mariago Ilustrajo.



### Year 4 –Galaxy Class

Galaxy class got to know the Tower Bridge care home residents a bit more today by taking part in a music project with them!





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# Rewards

## Years EYFS, 1 & 2

Core Value: **Love**  
**Year 1 and Year 2**

Class:	VIP of the week	Reason for Award:
VENUS	Sikario	For always checking in on people to see if they are okay.
EARTH	Harleigh	For being an amazing friend to all her new classmates
MARS	Lainey	For checking in on her classmates throughout the day
Class	Writer of the week:	Reason:
VENUS	Ava	For using her sounds to form words.
EARTH	Fatima	For amazing command sentences to survive a flood
MARS	Bambi	For her fabulous extended sentences!
Class	Mathematician of the week:	Reason:
VENUS	Airat	For her quick adding using coins.
EARTH	Peace	For discovering and using her knowledge of counting in two's to count in twenty
MARS	Manel	For her knowledge of telling the time throughout the day
Class:	Reader of the week:	Reason for Award
VENUS	Kushaine	For his brilliant segmenting and blending skills
EARTH	Billion	For confidence when reading in front of the class.
MARS	Francis	For his fabulous reading



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## Rewards

### Years 3 to 6

Core Value: **Love**  
**Years 3 to 6**

Class:	VIP of the week	Reason for Award:
JUPITER	Martina	For her positive attitude and love for learning.
GALAXY	Isaac	For showing a lot of care towards his peers and classroom resources
SUPERNOVA	Shahira	For helping others and keeping the classroom tidy!
NEPTUNE	Ibrahim	For caring about the classroom environment.
AURORA	Rayaan	For being helpful and caring
Class	Writer of the week	Reason
JUPITER	Karim	For his brilliant flooded wanted poster and his use of different sentence types
GALAXY	Knadia	For excellent use of speech marks and punctuations in our english lessons this week!
SUPERNOVA	Parker	For using a variety of conjunctions in her sentences.
NEPTUNE	Sabrina	For excellent presentation and using cursive handwriting.
AURORA	Mohamed	For his excellent arguments during our speech writing lesson
Class	Mathematician of the week:	Reason
JUPITER	Abdul	For his brilliant knowledge on place value and using a range of strategies to answer questions.
GALAXY	Roman	For super quick mental maths this week!
SUPERNOVA	Sheriffdeen	For making a great start to Year 4 maths by trying hard this week!
NEPTUNE	Kamil	For fantastic effort when learning about Roman numerals.
Class:	Reader of the week:	Reason
JUPITER	Harley	For his confidence when reading to the class.
GALAXY	Betsie	For great reading aloud this week!
SUPERNOVA	Ejatu	For reading fluently and confidently answering questions about her book!
NEPTUNE	George	For reading aloud clearly and confidently in class.
AURORA	Yassin	For reading his brilliant speech with great expression

# Parent/ Carer Information and Support

In an effort to encourage reading for pleasure each week one of our staff members will share their favourite children's book. This book will then be available for children to borrow to see if they enjoy reading it also.

One of my favourite children's books is '*Escape from Pompeii*'. I chose this book because I love History and Geography. It can help teach us more about the lives of Roman people who lived during this time as well as about how and why volcanoes erupt. Plus, the book is beautifully illustrated and there is some very interesting descriptive vocabulary. The book makes me want to visit Pompeii to learn more about this fascinating historical event.

*Miss Hall, Year 5.*





# Starting Reception

Your child's journey to school starts at home.





# Introduction

We understand that all children develop at their own pace, and that we're all learning from birth. When it's time to start school, some children will need more help than others.

There are key skills\* that schools expect children to be learning before their first day. Practising these will make your child's journey to Reception as positive as possible.

If your child is already at nursery, in pre-school, or with a childminder, those professionals will work with you and your child to help get them ready.

There's lots you can do at home to build your child's confidence and independence, helping them feel emotionally and practically prepared to start school.

\*We are calling this document the 'Starting Reception' definition. Some people/ organisations refer to this as 'school readiness'.

## How can I help my child get ready?

Your child will have lots of new activities and routines to get used to when they start school. There are some things they'll need to do more independently than they might have before.

Research shows that a child's relationship with their parents is the most important factor in their development, and there's a lot you can do at home.

When your child is at home with you or another caregiver, you can practise as a family with fun activities (we've included links at the end of this resource).

Some of these skills take time to master, so it's good to introduce them gradually in your daily routine.



## What if my child has additional needs?

- If your child needs additional support to settle into Reception, make sure you share as much information as possible with their new teacher. They can work with you to find strategies to support your child.
- Summer born children, or those speaking English as an additional language (EAL) may need more support.
- If you know or suspect your child has special educational needs (SEND), developmental differences or delays, some of these skills may not be achievable for them at this point.
- Early intervention makes a big difference – ask your child's nursery, school, health visitor, local children's centre or Family Hub for help.

## Who can I speak to for help?

All children will need help from their trusted adults so they can feel confident and excited about starting Reception.

Your childminder/nursery/pre-school team or your health visitor, children's centre or family hub can help if you need more information.

## Where can I find more resources?

We've also put together a list of organisations and resources to help you and your child get ready together.



These can be accessed online at <https://startingreception.co.uk>.



# **The definition: skills to practise before starting Reception:**

New skills take time to learn. Practising at home will help your child move into school more easily and with confidence.

## **Growing independence**

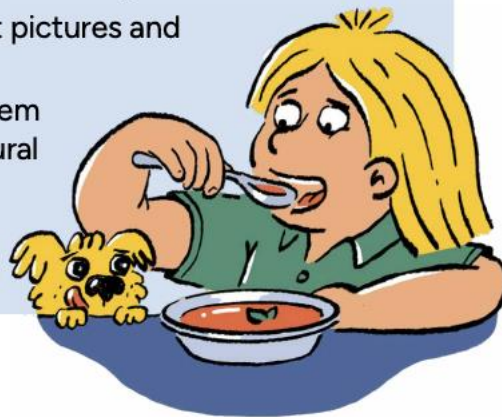


### ***Taking care of themselves***

- ☒ Putting on/taking off their coat and shoes
- ☒ Using the toilet and washing their hands
- ☒ Getting dressed with little help, e.g. after using the toilet or doing PE
- ☒ Using cutlery (e.g. fork and spoon, chopsticks) and drinking from an open cup
- ☒ Spending time away from you, learning they can be looked after by caring adults

### ***Play, creativity and curiosity***

- ☒ Taking part in imaginative play (e.g. role play)
- ☒ Drawing, painting, colouring and sticking
- ☒ Sharing story books, looking at pictures and talking about the characters
- ☒ Exploring the world around them (e.g. looking closely at the natural world, playing safely with objects at home)



At school your child will be meeting lots of new people and make new friendships. Some things to help them get ready include:

## Building relationships and communicating



### *Being with others*

- ✓ Practising sharing and taking turns with toys
- ✓ Talking to them about **how** they are feeling and **why**
- ✓ Looking at story books together and speaking about what characters are feeling is a good way to do this
- ✓ Beginning to recognise what others are feeling, e.g. understanding if a friend is sad
- ✓ Encouraging them to set boundaries for themselves and others (e.g. knowing how to say 'no')

### *Communication and language*

- ✓ Singing along with songs and nursery rhymes
- ✓ Talking happily to others about activities, experiences and the world around them
- ✓ Showing they need help by speaking clearly (in basic English or sign language)
- ✓ Recognising the pattern of their name (so they can find it on their coat peg or jacket)

### *Listening and engaging*

- ✓ Paying attention for short periods of time
- ✓ Listening to and following simple instructions
- ✓ Carrying on with a task even when it's difficult and bouncing back if things go wrong





## Physical development

### *Getting moving for at least three hours a day*

- ✓ Walking up and down steps (one foot at a time, using the wall for support)
- ✓ Climbing, running, jumping and playing
- ✓ Catching a large ball (most of the time)
- ✓ Doing simple puzzles and craft activities, strengthening their grip with cutting and sticking



## Healthy routines

- ✓ Going to bed around the same time each night, waking up in time to get ready for school
- ✓ Limiting screen time to the recommended daily amounts (see advice)
- ✓ Eating a healthy diet and trying new foods
- ✓ Brushing their teeth with fluoride toothpaste twice a day (you'll need to supervise this until they are at least 7)



## **What should I do if I have concerns about my child's development?**

- If you're worried about your child's progress, talk to your childminder/nursery/pre-school team, health visitor, local children's centre or Family Hub.
- If your child has developmental delays or SEND (suspected or confirmed), speak to their nursery, childminder, or health visitor/nursery/pre-school team well before they start Reception and discuss their needs when you are selecting schools.
- You can work with your child's early years setting to help your child with self-care, managing emotions, social skills, and communication in a way that suits their stage of development.
- You might want to share details about their development, needs, what motivates them, what might trigger difficulties, how they learn best, and what strategies work well.
- Make sure you share important information with everyone supporting your child, including their new Reception teacher.

### **Resources for families with additional needs**

There are many organisations who can support with information and strategies to prepare you, your child and their educational setting, ensuring a smooth transition and setting them up for future success.

These include:

- <https://www.familylives.org.uk>
- <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk>
- <https://dingley.org.uk>
- <https://www.kids.org.uk>



#### **Find out more**

For more information, visit  
<https://startingreception.co.uk>







# ClubsComplete

Opening a world of opportunities to  
children and young people



**JOIN US FOR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB HERE  
AT GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL!**



**Join us from  
Tuesday 2nd September**



**Monday : MadLabs  
Tuesday : Fun & Games  
Wednesday : Multi Sports  
Thursday : Master Chef  
Friday : Lego**

**Open until  
6pm!**



## **Menu includes...**

**Pasta with Tomato Sauce  
Jacket potato cheese & beans  
Tuna Mayo & Sweetcorn wraps  
Scrambled egg & toast**

## **Price**

**Activity Club - £7.80  
Explore Club - £8.95  
Care package - £16**

**Full Menu on our website!**

**Book now at [www.clubscomplete.co.uk](http://www.clubscomplete.co.uk) 01530 412 750**