

Nine Ashes Road  
Blackmore  
Ingatestone  
Essex CM4 0QR  
Tel: 01277 821528  
Fax: 01277 821394  
Headteacher Mrs Andrea Farrant



Summer Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed your Easter Break. It was lovely seeing what so many of you got up to with your posts on Tapestry and the children thoroughly enjoyed sharing those with the rest of the class – so thank you! I cannot believe we are already entering the last full term of this year!

### Topic

This term we have begun learning about the signs of spring in our yellow colour adventure and the lifecycle of a hen. We went on a spring walk to spot the signs we discussed. We also made our own diagram of the hen's life cycle and wrote a sentence about it. For our red colour adventure, we will explore and learn about England and St George's. We will then focus on London with Paddington Bear whilst familiarising ourselves with the King and his Royal Family. We will then be learning lots about planting and growing and the minibeasts that live in out in the garden in our green colour adventure in Summer 2. We will also be learning about the people who help us in our topic about real-life superheroes which perfectly aligns with our Aspirations and Careers Week. Finally, in our last month together as Class R we will embark on our final colour adventure – rainbow. Here we will celebrate the children's achievements and prepare for learning in Class 1!

### Number Fun

In our Number Fun lessons, we will continue to secure our number sense knowledge from 0-10 including doubles, odd and even numbers, counting forwards and backwards, counting objects and number bonds. We will also begin to explore at numbers beyond 10 (up to 20). The children will explore 3D shape this term and compare height and length.

### Phonics

We have now learnt all phase 2 and 3 sounds and our focus now is on longer words with more consonant sounds. We are focussing on becoming fluent on recognising the Harder to Read and Spell Words too. In the second half of the term, we'll begin the final stage of phonics teaching and add new sounds to our phoneme books. Each child progresses at their own pace, and we tailor our phonics teaching to suit their needs. Please continue to support your child at home by practicing phoneme and word card books, as well as their reading books. Regular practice has a significant impact on progress.

### Writing

Now we have learnt to write all the letters in the alphabet, we are perfecting our letter formation when writing. We are trying our best to remember that all our letters start at the top and sit on the line. Some letters are tall and some letters are descenders (they go underneath the line). We are writing labels, captions and sentences now. We know to remember full stops and finger spaces when writing sentences. We write in all areas of the provision and do adult led writing with our teachers in Handwriting, Drawing Club and Sentence Club.

With our 'bold beginnings' in the morning, there are lots of opportunities to practice and exercise our fine motor skills which really help us with writing too.

### PE and Swimming

We have made a great start back to swimming and the children came back to Class R full of excitement after their first swimming lesson of the summer term. Our PE day is on a Friday. Please ensure that earrings are removed before school on these days and that long hair is tied back. We will not be removing earrings in school or asking siblings if they can remove earrings so children wearing earrings on PE days will not be able to participate – this is for health and safety reasons.

### Uniform

As the weather is getting warmer, a hat and a water bottle is essential every day. Please ensure your child has suncream on before school. We are not able to reapply suncream throughout the day so a long lasting suncream is advised. We encourage the children to drink plenty of water and stay in shaded areas. As always, we will refill water bottles when necessary to ensure the children are well hydrated throughout the day. Please ensure that every item of your child's school and PE clothing is clearly named, including footwear and accessories, such as hats. Children in Class R are fortunate enough to enjoy a rolling snack station throughout the day and therefore do not need to bring in any additional snacks.

### School website

Our class R page contains all essential information, class updates and useful resources.

<https://www.blackmore.essex.sch.uk/class-r-2>

We hope all the children in Class R enjoy a happy and rewarding final term in Reception. Time really does fly when you're having fun, and we're excited to share all of the wonderful learning experiences we have planned.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warmest regards,

Miss Read, Miss Sims, Mrs Sims and Miss Pullum