

## Mathematics

We are focusing on building strong number foundations and developing early mathematical thinking through hands-on, practical experiences.

We will be doing lots of daily counting activities to help children become confident with numbers to 10 and using their fingers to represent them. They will also practise counting small groups of objects reliably up to 5 and start to recognise quantities up to 5 without needing to count — such as dots on a dice or items in a group.

As their confidence grows, children will begin to explore different ways to make numbers (5 is 3 and 2, 4 and 1, 0 and 5...). We will also sort objects by colour, size, and shape, using simple maths language like *same/different*, *smooth/rough*, or *round/not round*. Once confident, they'll compare groups using *more*, *fewer*, or *equal*.

We will support their learning through stories, games and role play as well as with a variety of hands-on resources for counting, sorting, and exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

## Phonics

At Benthal, we use the **Read Write Inc (RWI)** phonics programme. The children will learn to say the sound of each letter and to blend the sounds together in a word to read it e.g. c-a-t = cat. To begin with we learn a sound a day. Letter-sound pictures are used to help your child learn these sounds quickly. Once they have learnt the first 5 sounds we teach them to blend them. When we say words in pure sounds we call it 'Fred Talk', for examples p-a-n, c-l-a-p. We will start learning single sounds this term. We will give children a worksheet about the sounds they learnt as an aid to learning their sounds.



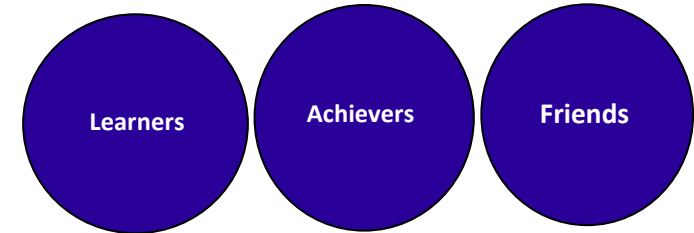
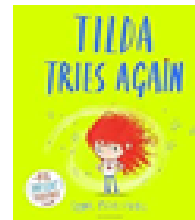
## Communication and Language and Literacy

We will enjoy stories, rhymes, and songs daily — during routines, small group work, and dedicated story-times. Children will explore a wide range of books across the classroom, including stories that link with our Understanding the World topic. We'll focus on books that help us understand feelings and emotions, especially by **Tom Percival** and **Chris Houghton**, as well as books that celebrate what makes us unique, including those by **Ben Faulks**.

There will be lots of opportunities to build literacy skills through retelling and sequencing familiar stories, role play, and drama. Children will be encouraged to use expressive voices and take on the roles of different characters or even create their own. We will also use drama strategies such as **freeze frame** (to pause and reflect on key moments in a story) and **con-science alley** (to explore characters' thoughts and choices). These activities help deepen children's comprehension, vocabulary, and confidence with speaking and listening.

We will ask questions like *What happened? Why did they do that? What might happen next?* to develop early inference and prediction skills.

Mark-making will support gross and fine motor development and early writing. Children will practise letter formation using a range of materials in continuous provision and group tasks. We will begin to recognise and write our names, and as phonics progresses, children will start to read and spell simple words using the sounds they've learned.



## Curriculum Information Autumn Term 2025



## Reception Aspen Class

Mrs Ayyildiz



## Personal Social and Emotional Development

We will help children settle into school life, feel safe, and become familiar with daily routines. We are supporting them to build positive attitudes towards learning, themselves, and others.

We will encourage them to recognise and talk about their feelings and begin using simple strategies to manage them — such as talking to an adult, having quiet time, or using calming techniques. We will support them in understanding that all feelings are valid and that there are ways to feel better when feeling sad, worried, or angry.

Children will also learn how to solve everyday con-

## Expressive Arts and Design

This term, children will have the opportunity to **build, make, and create** using a variety of materials. They will explore colour and texture through **highly personalised paintings** and imaginative artwork.

We will learn how to **join materials together** using a range of tools and equipment, with a focus on using them **safely and independently**.

Children are encouraged to access the creative area independently in order to create their own products. Please bring in any recyclables you may have that could be used for junk modelling e.g. plastic bottles, boxes, kitchen rolls (**not toilet rolls**), egg boxes etc. .

## Reception Curriculum Information Autumn Term

### Physical Development

We encourage and support children's physical control, mobility, and spatial awareness through both indoor and outdoor activities. Children will also take part in weekly PE lessons with our PE teacher every **Monday afternoon**.

Please ensure your child's **PE kit** stays in school for the duration of the half term. It should include a **white t-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms, and black plimsolls**.

**Please make sure all items of uniform and PE kit are clearly labelled with your child's name.**

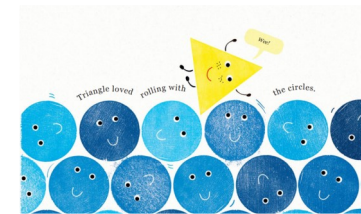
We also ask that each child has a **spare set of clothes in school**, including underwear. This does not need to be school uniform but should be practical and suitable for changes during the day.

### Home School Communication

**We will send** pictures and information about the learning take places in our class through class email. At times, we will set small tasks for you to complete as a family at the weekend and share it with us through class email.

We kindly ask that children do not bring toys from home to school. This helps to **keep everyone's belongings safe** as toys can easily get lost, broken, or cause upset if they go missing.

If your child has a special item they need for comfort or a particular reason, please talk to us so we can work together to support them. Please make sure that your child has a **water bottle** with their name on it which they can then access throughout the day whenever they want a drink.



### Understanding the World

This term, we will explore two exciting topics: **Only One You** and **Let's Celebrate**.

We'll begin with *Only One You*, a topic focused on helping children get to know one another and feel confident in sharing who they are. As we settle into school life, children may talk about who they live and play with outside of school and begin to notice and appreciate both **similarities and differences** between themselves and others. We will be thinking about *what makes each of us special and unique*. Children will learn that **everyone's thoughts and ideas are important**, and that no one is more or less important than anyone else.

Our second topic, *Let's Celebrate*, will give children a rich experience of the different **festivals and celebrations** taking place around the world during autumn and winter. We will also share the special events that children celebrate at home and learn about the ways different families mark important occasions.

If your family is celebrating something special this term, we'd love to hear about it! You're very welcome to come in and **share your celebration with the class**. You could **read a story, show some pictures, or bring in something special** linked to your tradition. It's a lovely way for the children to learn about each other's cultures and experiences.

