



Commonswood Nursery
and Primary School

Summer Term in
Reception

04.05.26: Bank Holiday (school closed)

07.05.26: Reception trip to Aldenham

22.05.26: INSET Day (school closed)

25.05.26 - 29.05.26: Half Term

Week of 15.06.26: WOW Writing Week.

03.06.26 Reception Sports Day

09.07.26: Transition morning

09.07.26: Whole School Open evening

3:10pm - 4:40pm

23.07.26: School closes for Summer 12:30pm

E-Safety Theme:

May - Self Image and Identity

June - Health, Wellbeing and Lifestyle

July – Online Bullying

Emotions of the term: Surprise and Fear

Our curriculum is carefully planned so that learning builds step-by-step over time. Each lesson connects to the previous one and prepares children for what they will learn next.

When a child misses school, it can interrupt this sequence of learning. Important explanations, practice and discussions may be missed, making it harder for children to fully understand new concepts when they return. Even short absences can mean gaps in knowledge, and these gaps can affect confidence, progress and independence in future lessons.

Regular attendance helps children follow the learning journey as it was designed. Being in school every day allows them to develop their knowledge, practise new skills and build on their understanding alongside their classmates

Literacy: Reading

Our first Talk for Writing text is 'The Paper Dolls' by Julia Donaldson. In this story we learn about the importance of a memory and reflect on our own special memories.

Our second text is 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' by David and Ronda Armitage. We might receive a letter that has travelled by sea in a bottle.

For both stories we retell the story using story language and make up our own versions of the story.



Literacy: Writing

We continue to write our own sentences and learn to apply key features of a sentence such as capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We begin to write longer sentences, containing connectives such as 'and' and 'because'.

We challenge ourselves to write some more extended pieces of writing. For example, short stories.



Phonics

We continue to recap our taught digraphs and trigraphs and focus on applying new blending skills. We learn to blend longer words and words containing adjacent consonants. For example, **swim, shift, crunch, splash, sleeping.**

We learn new tricky words: **said, so, have, like, some, come, love, do, were, here, little, says, there, when, what, one, out, today.**



Expressive Arts

We will explore art inspired by Henry Fraser and Eric Carle. We will make marks using different body parts and use our knowledge of creating different textures to design 3D minibeast-inspired artwork.



Physical Development

Fine motor skills - We develop strength and control in our hands and fingers through a range of activities using small manipulatives, as well as materials such as clay and dough. These activities support children in developing a secure pencil grip. We are focusing on correct letter formation, ensuring each letter is formed accurately and with increasing confidence.

Gross motor skills – In our PE lessons, we begin *Ball Unit 2*, where children develop their coordination and control by manoeuvring different sized balls using various parts of their bodies. They also work collaboratively in small groups to practise passing and controlling balls, building both physical skills and teamwork.



Mathematics: Number

We look for patterns in number, for example when counting to larger numbers we notice a pattern in the final digit (twenty, twenty ONE, twenty TWO... thirty, thirty ONE, thirty TWO...).

We automatically recall our learnt number facts and apply our mathematical skills to problem solve in different contexts.



Mathematics: Shape, Measure and Space

We revisit some of the ways we have explored measurements throughout this school year, for example height and length.

We learn other ways to measure items such as weight and capacity. We are also introduced to measuring distance.

We use mathematical language to describe these measurements. For example, heavier, lighter, nearer, further.



Wanderlust

We observe the changes we can see in summer. We learn about insects and animals life cycles, such as caterpillars and frogs.

We explore our own shadows and create shadows.



Communication and Language

We learn new vocabulary from our Talk for Writing texts. We encourage children to use these through our imaginative play and storytelling.

We continue to use our good listening ears during carpet and group times.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

We explore how to form positive relationships. We discuss ways of being kind to others and how to initiate play and conversations.

We reflect on our proud memories of Reception and begin our transition into Year 1. We visit our new classrooms and ask our new teachers some questions.



Understanding the World

We discuss and explore artifacts from 'the past' and compare what we know about the past to the present. For example, changes in technology such as mobile phones.



Reminders:

- We kindly remind parents and carers that there is an expectation to regularly write in their child's contact book to support communication and reading progress.
- Children must bring a water bottle to school every day. Please ensure bottles contain only water.
- Thank you for consistently uploading homework on time. This helps children consolidate their learning and boosts their confidence when sharing their work with the class.

Further information about the curriculum can be found on the school website.