



Autumn 2025 1st Half Term – Reception

Hello to our new children and parents who have started at Hilltop First School and welcome back to our families from Foxglove. We have been blown away with the children who have settled in quickly to life at Hilltop. They have become familiar with the rules and routines, are beginning to develop friendships and becoming confident within themselves. It's been a great start to the term and we have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know your little ones. ☺

This term, we are looking at Traditional Tales. The children will enjoy listening to 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears,' 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'The Billy Goats Gruff' as well as a number of other stories. They will be encouraged to join in with key phrases, role play as if they are different characters and get creative. The children appear to be happy and enjoying school life. We are very proud of them!

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The children are becoming confident in developing new friendships and getting to know the adults within Team Woodland. We are encouraging the children to communicate with one another, inviting each other into their play and comforting one another if they see a friend upset.

Communication & Language

As mentioned, the children will become familiar with story language and using repeated phrases. They will demonstrate this through role play, looking at images and playing alongside each other and adults. We will also be encouraging the children to interact politely with one another.

Physical Development

To develop writing skills, the children will be working on fine motor activities. We have already been threading, manipulating play dough and we will begin to use scissors to cut on lines and patterns. In PE, the children will be working on how to negotiate their bodies in space, explore movements and try new activities

Literacy

We will be starting our Phonics lessons using 'Letterland' where we will be learning 2 new sounds per week. The children will come home with a wordless book each week. Please ensure you 'read' with your child at least four times a week as this encourages storytelling and vocabulary.

Maths

We will be focussing on counting skills, subitising within 3, exploring how all numbers are made of 1's as well as looking at the composition of 3 and 4. We will subitise objects and sounds and use the language of comparison: 'more than and fewer than' when comparing sets, as well as small, medium, large.

Understanding the World

Using the Traditional Tales as starting points, the children will be learning about kindness and diversity (The Ugly Duckling). Working collaboratively (The Enormous Turnip), different types of bridges (The Billy Goats Gruff), and different types of homes (The 3 little Pigs).

Expressive Arts

The children will be learning how to use a range of tools and materials. This term, we will look at attaching materials together using different types of glue and begin to use scissors thinking about the positioning of our thumb. We will explore painting and sponge printing.

Reminders for this half term

- ★ Please ensure your child has **all** school uniform **clearly labelled with their name**. We already have a number of jumpers and cardigans with no names finding their way into lost property.
- ★ The children should be bringing a clearly named school water bottle to school.
- ★ Please ensure the children come into school wearing their **PE kits on Fridays**. They do not need to bring in their school uniforms on this day as they will not be getting changed.

Mrs van Laar ☺