

Ash Class Spring Term 1 Overview 2026 (Reception)



Space



Religious Education

CWAS F3: Which places are special and why?
Understanding Christianity: What do Christians believe
God is like?

Forest School

Rules and routines. Seasonal changes.
Mud play. Den building. Planting bulbs. Bird Feeders.

Phonics

Little Wandle Sounds to learn –ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er, words with double letters [dd, mm, tt, bb, rr, gg, pp, ff], longer words.
Tricky words - was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure.

Literacy

'Drawing Club' focus – Space (adventure tales, animations and traditional tales): Aliens Love Underpants, Beegu, Mr Benn Spaceman, Cinderella.
Fiction & Non-fiction texts about space. Emergent writing; encourage short words or phrases in different writing contexts, e.g. in free flow or in a structured lesson. List writing. Reading words through sound blending as part of Little Wandle. Provide opportunities for emergent writing (with ongoing provision for mark making) e.g. writing letters of children's names in paint, sand, with water and brushes, tracing activities, rubbing activities, whiteboards and pens, clipboards outside etc.

Maths

Number
To develop subitising and counting skills and explore the composition of numbers within and beyond 5. They will begin to identify when two sets are equal or unequal and connect two equal groups to doubles. They will begin to connect quantities to numerals
Number Patterns
To recognise when there is more, less or the same as in a group and to talk about and identify some number patterns.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art & Design – Exploring line. Taking a line for a walk. Creating pictures like Hundertwasser using spirals and curved lines. Portraits and self-portraits.
Puppets: Chinese New Year.
Music – Charanga unit: Everyone.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Keeping Safe (SCARF): What's safe to go onto our body; what's safe to go into our body. Safety indoors and outdoors. Listening to own feelings. Keeping safe online. People who help to keep us safe.

Communication and Language

Build up vocabulary that reflects knowledge and experience e.g. children can talk about space, what they know about it, what an astronaut does, how we know about space. Use different tenses to discuss things that are happening now and things that happened in the past, and things that happened a very long time ago. Ask relevant questions to find out more information e.g. when sharing a non-fiction text children can say 'I wonder why...'. Share opinions, explaining preferences e.g. My favourite planet is... because...

Understanding the World

Space: Our planet Earth, land and sea, plants and animals, weather, gravity. The moon, the sun, the planets in our solar system, space travel, astronauts.
Seasonal Changes - Spring: Seasons of the year: Spring. The first signs of spring; snowdrops, cherry blossom, buds and flowers, birds nesting, bees, lighter evenings.
Space: Geography focus: Astronauts and Astronomers; including Mae Jaimeson, Tim Peake, Caroline Hershel.
Space: History focus: People who looked at the stars; Galileo. Traditional stories to explain the stars e.g. The hunting of the Great Bear. What scientists and astronomers know about our Solar System now; our sun, the planets in our solar system.
The Moon landings; Neil Armstrong The International Space Station; when and why it was built and launched.

Physical Development

Fine Motor: Small tools; cutlery, tweezers, pipettes, scissors Drawing and painting.
Gross Motor: Dance, Running, jumping and throwing.
Balance- standing on one leg, walking along a bench, climbing.