

# EXPLORERS

## School Times

**8:40am**– Gates/ doors open.

**8:50am**– Gates/doors closed.

(please report to the school office if you arrive after this time)

**3:30pm**– Pick up. Children in Reception are asked to wait until their name is called before they come out to you. This is for safeguarding purposes ensuring that all children are accounted for.



Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for a busy and exciting Summer Term ahead. This is always such a special term in Reception, as we begin to see the children growing in confidence and independence. We have lots of lovely learning planned, alongside plenty of opportunities for the children to follow their own interests through play and exploration.

## PE

PE takes place on Thursday afternoons. In Summer 1, the children will be focusing on football skills, developing their control, coordination and teamwork. In Summer 2, our focus will move to Rackets, Bats and Balls, where the children will be developing key skills such as striking, aiming and control through a range of activities, including early tennis skills.



**Please remember** that children should come to school dressed in their PE kit on their PE day.

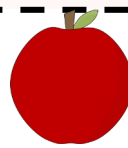
## Lunch Time

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. A copy of the menu has been shared via email.

If your child brings a packed lunch, please do not include a drink, as water is provided in school. We also ask that packed lunches do not contain any nuts or sesame seeds due to severe allergies within our school community.

## Morning Snack

Children will be provided with a piece of fruit each morning. However, if your child prefers, they are very welcome to bring their own fruit from home. Please ensure that any pots or containers are clearly named.



## Trips and Visits

Unfortunately, our trip last half term was cancelled by the River Stour Trust due to bad weather and we have been unable to rearrange this visit. We are aware that most families had already paid £15 for this trip and want to reassure you that this will not be lost.

We will be organising an alternative trip to support our Summer Term learning, and any money already paid can be used towards this. This trip will likely take place in the second half of the Summer Term. Further information will be shared in due course.

**Reminder** – To help avoid items getting lost or damaged, please do not bring toys, keyrings or other items from home into school.

## Dates for the Diary

Monday 13th April 2026– Start of Summer Term

Monday 27th April 2026– 'Godly Play' with Rev. Nicola

Monday 4th May 2026– Bank Holiday

Friday 15th May 2026 – RE Day

Friday 22nd May 2026 – PD Day

Monday 25th May– Friday 29th May 2026–  
HALF TERM

Friday 19th June 2026– RE Day

Monday 29th June 2026– 'Godly Play' with Rev Nicola

WB 6th July 2026– Activity Week

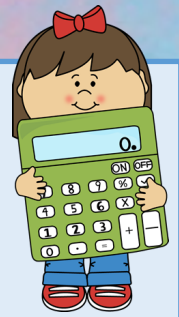
Wednesday 8th July 2026– Sports Day

WB 13th July 2026– Reports out

Wednesday 15th July 2026– Move Up morning  
(children spend the morning in their new class)

Friday 17th July 2026– Last day of term

Monday 20th July– PD Day



### **In Maths**

This term, our maths learning will focus on building confidence with number, as well as developing skills in counting, grouping, sharing and exploring how numbers can be made in different ways.

Our teaching is carefully adapted based on what we know about the children's learning from the end of the Spring Term. This allows us to revisit key concepts, deepen understanding and ensure that all children are supported and challenged at the right level.

We continue to follow the White Rose approach and resources, teaching maths in small, manageable steps so that children can build secure foundations and develop confidence over time.

### **Phonics and Literacy**

This term, we will continue learning Phase 3 sounds using our Read Write Inc. approach. As always, teaching is carefully adapted to meet the needs of each child, with many children beginning to move towards Phase 4 as they become more confident.

Alongside learning new sounds, we will be focusing on applying these skills in both reading and writing, helping children to become more fluent and independent.

You can really support your child at home by reading daily and practising letter formation and handwriting. We use Read Write Inc. mnemonics to support this, as they help children to start and form their letters correctly. I will be sending home a mnemonic poster, along with some simple, practical phonics activities. These are designed to be fun and active, helping children to practise their phonics skills in an engaging way.

### **Literacy- Writing**

This half term, we will be using the story *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole* to support our writing. The children will be developing their ability to say, build and write simple sentences, using their phonics knowledge to help them. Through our lessons, we will focus on building vocabulary, talking through ideas and practising sentence writing, before applying this more independently. This approach helps children to become more confident and capable writers over time.

### **Journey of Discovery**

This term, our learning will be shaped by two exciting Journeys of Discovery, designed to help the children build their understanding of the world across time and place.

In **A Journey to the Prehistoric Past**, we will explore how the world was different long ago, including learning about prehistoric creatures such as dinosaurs. This will support the children in beginning to understand the concept of the past and how we find out about it. After half term, we will move into **A Journey through the Animal Kingdom**, where we will focus on the world as it is today—exploring animals, their habitats and the environments they live in.

Across both journeys, the children will develop their curiosity, ask questions, make comparisons and begin to make sense of the world around them. Learning will be brought to life through high-quality texts, purposeful provision and meaningful experiences, allowing children to revisit and deepen their understanding over time.

Admin information.

To contact us about attendance or for general enquiries, please email [admin@risbyprimary.com](mailto:admin@risbyprimary.com) or phone the school office on 01284 810367. We kindly ask that you do not use the private message function on Class Dojo. **For planned absence such as a holiday, an absence request form must be submitted to Mrs Smith. These forms can be collected from the school office.**

If you ever have a question, no matter how small, please do not hesitate to ask. I understand that drop off and pick up times can be busy, but I will always try to be available for a quick chat. If you would like to discuss anything in more detail, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Kind regards,

Louise Filby and the EYFS Team