

*Spring Edition*

*January 2025*

*Dear Families*

*Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable Winter break. We thank you for your patience and support during the settling in period during the Autumn Term and look forward to continuing the learning journey with your children and yourselves.*

*The Reception Team*

Calendar dates:

**School starts again  
for children:  
Monday 6th January**

**Individual Class Photos:  
Thursday 16th January**

**Term Ends:  
Friday 14th February**

**February Half Term  
Monday 17th February  
- Friday 21st February**

**School starts again  
for children:  
Monday 24th February**

**Parents Evenings:  
Tuesday 1st April &  
Thursday 3rd April**

**End of Term  
for the children:  
Friday 4th April  
1:30pm Finish**

**School starts again  
for children:  
Tuesday 22nd April**

Subject Coverage

**Communication and Language:**

We now engage in carpet time sessions, story times and class discussions where children need to listen to adults and each other and share their thoughts and ideas as well as ask questions to clarify their understanding.

We are continuing to introduce new vocabulary and encouraging children to use this in their learning and play. Children are expected to speak using full sentences.

**Literacy:** We are going to be reading 'Little,'Red', an alternative fairy tale and looking at traditional fairy tale stories. We will also be reading 'The Magic Paintbrush.' This is a folk tale and links nicely to our Chinese New Year celebrations. In Spring 2 our books will link to planting, growing and healthy eating.

Children are continuing to learn their letter sounds and practising applying them to reading and writing simple CVC words and phrases/short sentences.

**PSED:**

We are continuing to support children to express their feelings in appropriate ways and consider the feelings of others. We continue to model sharing, turn taking, and using resources appropriately. We are encouraging children to find ways to resolve issues more independently.

**Physical Development:**

Outdoor PE – Hand Ball Skills – Children will explore a variety of resources e.g. bean bags and balls and will be working on developing their aim and accuracy when throwing and catching.

Handwriting – We are using the Read Write Inc. letter formation rhymes to support children to correctly form their letters. We will also be working on keeping letters an appropriate size on the page and sitting on the line.

**Maths:** We will be developing our understanding of number with lots of opportunities to count, order numbers and practice writing our numbers. We are going to be comparing groups using the language more, less and fewer. We are also

Reading Records

We will be writing in children's new books on the day they read with us. If your child brings home a RWI book on a Monday, please write the title in their diary for us. Please ensure that you are sharing books and, if appropriate, your child is reading their Read Write Inc. book to you at least 3 times a week and you note it in their reading record.

**Tapestry**

We are now using tapestry to upload work and learning evidence. You can also upload things to share with us.

**Dojo**

Please keep a close eye on our dojo class walls as this is our main form of communication and where we will share updates etc.

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|  | <p>exploring the composition of numbers within 10 e.g. 2 and 3 makes 5.<br/>We will also be looking at capacity language, comparing and describing length and positional and directional language.<br/><u>Understanding the World:</u><br/>We will be exploring China, learning about the country and cultures, traditions and places of worship.<br/>We will be learning about seasons and exploring the natural world around us. We will also be looking at planting and growing and where our food comes from.<br/><u>Expressive Arts and Design:</u> We will be exploring lots of art materials such as paint, crayons, chalks and others. Children will be encouraged to plan and evaluate their work.</p> |  |
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**Upcoming Events in Reception**

**Chinese New Year WB 3.02.2025**  
**World Book Day WB 24.03.2025**  
**Mother's Day Celebration TBC**

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| <p><b><u>Trips this term</u></b></p> <p>TBC – trips, special events.</p> | <p><b><u>Assemblies</u></b></p> <p>This term we are going to be having our own year group assemblies to support the children in learning to enter the hall and sit appropriately.</p> |
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| <p><b><u>Home and school partnership</u></b></p> <p>We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrive at school on time, the gates open at 8.40am and children should be here by 8.50am</li> <li>• Read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve fluency and literacy skills.</li> <li>• Share their school experiences with you so that you are aware of their school life.</li> <li>• Access the RWI links appropriate to your child, shared weekly on the whole school dojo page</li> </ul> | <p><b><u>Staff in Reception from January:</u></b><br/> Miss Hunt – Class Teacher (Tues &amp; Wed)<br/> Mrs Dixon – Class Teacher (Mon, Thurs, Fri)<br/> Mrs Mander - TA</p> |
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**Attendance and Punctuality**

*Do encourage your child to come to school every day unless they are really ill.  
Remember frequent absences can seriously hinder your child's education. Arriving in school on time is also vital, and helps your child to settle into school life and school routines quicker!*

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>PE Days</u></b></p> <p>PE day is Tuesday. Children need to be wearing their outdoor kit –Jogging bottoms, a t-shirt, their hoodie/jumper and appropriate shoes (trainers). Please ensure the items are the correct colours in line with the schools policy and that they are plain (no pictures or logos)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Belongings</u></b></p> <p><i>Please make sure that your child's belongings (uniform, PE kit, lunch box, water bottle) are clearly marked with their name, and are brought to school every day.</i></p> |
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## UNIFORM PROCEDURES

**Wear your Castilion School uniform with pride.**

- Children are no longer required to wear white shirts, they can now wear white polo tops. Children can continue to wear the shirts they have until they are ready to be replaced.
- Children are no longer required to wear ties.

**All children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos and is based on the following principles:**

- Promotes a sense of pride amongst the children in the school
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be)
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind.
- Impacts positively on attitudes to learning



Please note that it is not compulsory to purchase logo items of school uniform, you may purchase plain uniform items from a shop of your choice - something that we actively encourage you to do.

Second-hand uniforms can benefit all parents, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable.

| Boys   | Girls  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey trousers</li> <li>▪ Grey shorts in the summer</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey skirt/tunic/trousers</li> <li>▪ Green &amp; white check dress in the summer</li> <li>▪ Grey shorts in the summer</li> </ul>                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White polo shirt</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White polo shirt</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey socks</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White/grey socks/tights</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottle green pullover or school sweatshirt</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottle green cardigan or school sweatshirt</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Black school shoes</li> <li>▪ No <i>trainers or the equivalent</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Children are not allowed to wear boots</i></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Please note: Shoes should not have flashing lights.</i></b><br/> <b>Sandals and other open footwear are not allowed at any time of the year</b></p> |  |
| <p>·PE - children should come into school wearing their PE kit on days they have PE lessons</p>  |  |
| <p><b>Indoor PE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Black shorts</li> <li>▪ White T-Shirt</li> <li>▪ Bare feet</li> <li>▪ Black leotards are acceptable for Junior Girls (if they can change in and out of these quickly)</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Outdoor PE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Black shorts</li> <li>▪ White T-Shirt</li> <li>▪ Black plimsolls or training shoes</li> <li>▪ Socks ONLY - No tights</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>In colder weather (the following is allowed):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Children may wear a green fleece (with or without a school logo) or a plain black tracksuit top / fleece / hoodie with black jogging bottoms over their PE kit.</li> </ul>  |  |

### Water Bottles

- Please provide your child with a clear plastic, push-up top water bottle

### Jewellery

- For health and safety reasons, please do not send your child to school wearing jewellery. If your child has already had his/her ears pierced, they may only wear plain studs, with no stones.

### Watches

- Children may only wear plain, small, watches that only tell the time and do not allow any other activity to be accessed.

### Hair

- Children should come to school with sensible haircuts. Skin-head, Mohican, motif haircuts, dyed hair and coloured extensions are not permitted.
- Children may wear plain beads but these must be tied back.
- Hair accessories should only be worn in order to keep hair tied back, they should be discreet and plain coloured (black/white/green).
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- Hair accessories should only be worn in order to keep hair tied back, they should be discreet and plain coloured (black/white/green).
- Nail varnish and make-up **MUST NOT** be worn.

### Bookbags

Children need a green, flat book bag – no backpacks please. These should be clearly named on the outside. School book bags are available on the Mapac website:

<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/castillionprimaryschoolse288qa>

### Nut Free School

As we have several children in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy we have made the decision to continue forwards as a 'Nut-Free School'. If your child has a nut allergy could you please inform our Senior Administrator Mrs M Gultekin via the school office and their teacher as soon as possible. Although we are now striving to be a nut-free school, it will be impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises.



*Please record all daily reading in the children's reading record books.  
Teachers will be checking these and signing them weekly.*

**Reading records and reading books should be brought to school every day to support progress.**

Your child may bring a healthy snack to eat at playtime such as fresh / dried fruit or healthy cereal bars.

You can order milk for your child if you wish to do so from: <https://customers.coolmilk.com/V2/register/>

Please supply your child with a re-usable, clear, plastic water bottle with a flip up, non-spill lid.

*Thank you for your support.*