



Reception Newsletter

Autumn 1

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to a new academic year, and your child's very first at Alexander McLeod. We hope you had a lovely summer break and we are so excited to get to know our new pupils. Read on to find out more about what's in store!

Our topic this term is...

...Families, Festivals and Friends.

During the coming weeks, we will be learning all about ourselves, our families, our family traditions and our likes and dislikes. We will be learning that we share many things, but we can celebrate our differences too!



Key dates and important information:

- Friday 4th September 2026 – half day. Children to be collected before lunch at **11am**
- Monday 7th September 2026 – half day. Children to go home after lunch at **1:30pm**
- Tuesday 8th September 2026 – full day. Children to be in school **8:40-3:15pm**
- Early reading parent workshop – TBC
- Children to bring in a baby picture of them and also a family picture to discuss with their friends

PE

This half term we will be focusing on taking part in PE sessions. Children will need a PE kit in order to take part. All items of clothing should be clearly named, including school uniform. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in a draw string bag. This bag stays in school every day and will be sent home at half term. PE will be on Mondays.

Reading Books

If your child brings in their reading folder, then they will receive a physical book every Friday as well. You will receive a letter explaining how to set up and log into the online system. If you lose your log in details, please speak with your child's class teacher.

Forest School

Your child will need a pair of named wellie boots that will be left at school to attend sessions.

Don't forget to check out our year group page on the school website for more information about the teaching team and our curriculum. Also, check the Reach More Parents app for school, year group and class updates.

OUR CURRICULUM

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term, we will be doing all we can to help our children settle in to the routines of the school day. We will play games that enable them to learn each other's names and support them with taking turns.

Communication and Language

In our learning environments, the children will find many opportunities to develop their language skills through play. This half term, our role play and small world activities will support the children with learning about ourselves and our families.

Physical Development

Our children will be encouraged to join in with many different activities that help to support their gross and fine motor skills, such as safely using climbing and balancing equipment as well as making familiar faces using playdough and pegboards.

Understanding the World

An important part of our learning this half term is to begin to understand our own life story and the part we play within our families and friendships.

Expressive Arts and Design

Just wait until you see some of the amazing artwork our children will create this half term! We will be learning to use a range of different materials to make self-portraits and skeleton pictures.

Mathematics

Numbers, numbers, numbers! Our focus this half term is to learn our numbers up to 5. We will be counting objects, singing number songs and learning to recognise numbers.

Literacy

This half term we will be developing our love of reading and exploring new books in our book corner and with your child's shared reading book. This is a book that they will take home each day to share with you afterschool, before bedtime etc. Each day you bring the book back and swap for a new one!

How to support your child at home...

Here are some suggestions of fun things you could do to support your child with their learning this half term:

- Visit an older relative and ask them to tell you a story about when they were little
- Meet up with another family and share a picnic
- Make a height chart that you can update over the year to see how much your child has grown

Important things to practise at home:

- Getting dressed and undressed independently – including shoes, coats and fastenings!
- Using the toilet and washing hands independently
- Cutting and eating using a knife and fork

