Curriculum Information
Autumn 2 Term 2026 – Reception

Welcome back to school! We had a fantastic start to the new school year last half term and would like to thank all our families for their support. We are excited to continue our learning with our new topic about 'Celebrations'. We will be talking about how festivals and special times such as Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali, Christmas and birthdays are celebrated. And of course taking part in lots of very special celebrations ourselves!

Clothing and Wellies – Let's Get Ready for Messy Fun!

Label, Label, Label!

Please make sure all your child's belongings are clearly labelled – that includes shoes, sun hats, water bottles… basically everything! It makes it so much easier for us to get lost items back to their rightful owner.



Spare Clothes

Every little explorer needs a backup outfit! Please pack a set of spare clothes in your child's bag. We love getting messy at school, and sometimes a quick change is needed after all the fun!

Wellies

Mud, puddles, paint, and more! Please send a pair of wellies for your child, which can stay at school for the term. They'll be perfect for all the wet and messy play – especially now the Autumn weather is changing!



Curriculum Contribution

Our celebrations topic gives us lots of opportunities to try lots of tasty treats from our own and other cultures – to help support this part of our curriculum we ask for a small curriculum donation of £5 per term (autumn, spring, and summer). This half-term we will be tasing traditional Bonfire Night and Christmas treats, baking bread and tasting Indian foods.

Please send the donation in cash, in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it. Every little bit helps!

Book Bags

Please can children bring their book bags to school *every day.*



Don't Forget Days!

Monday is Library Day

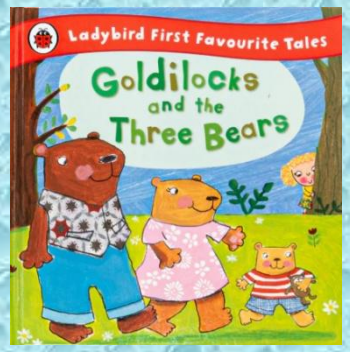
Our little book lovers get to visit the library and pick out a new story each Monday! Please help your child remember to bring their book back by the following Monday. Books can be left in reading folders for the children to get out at library time!

Tuesday is PE Day

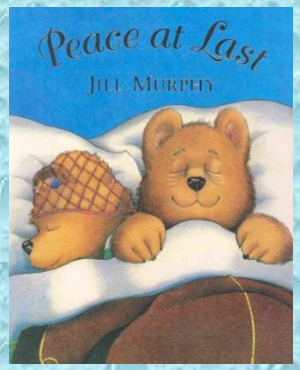
Tuesdays are all about moving, jumping, and having fun! Please send your child to school in their PE kit: a school PE t-shirt, black shorts or joggers, and trainers or pumps. That way, they're ready for all the action-packed activities we have planned!

Magic of Reading

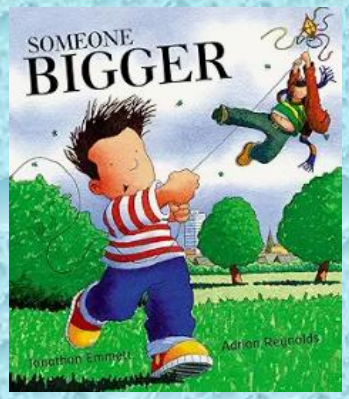
These are the books that we will share this half-term in our daily story session. We will explore new vocabulary, re-tell the stories and talk about the characters that we meet!



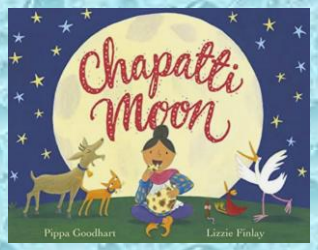
nosy
empty
cosy
furry



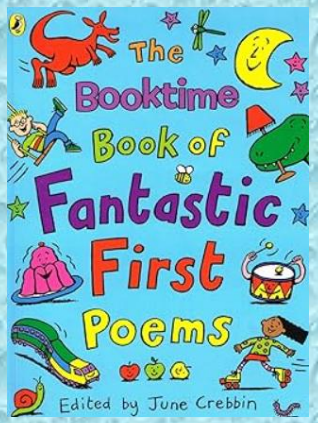
tired
snored
pretend
uncomfortable



light
town
strange
creatures



feast
scooped
wonderful
snatched



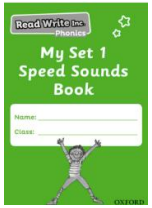
old
fluffy
blinking and winking
supper



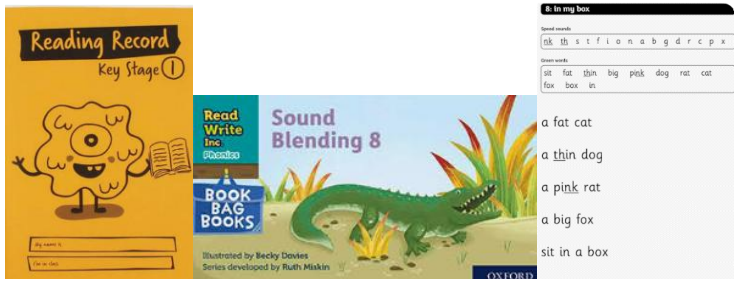
excited
prickly
chilly
shivered



- Each week we send you information on Evidence Me to let you know the 'sounds' that your child's group will be focusing on during the week. Please practise these sounds and the letter formation for each focus letter for a few minutes every day— details about correct formation can be found in your child's green Set 1 sounds book.



- Some groups will now begin to bring home a word blending book/ditty sheet—please sign in the yellow reading record provided when your child has read the words in their book. Children make the most reading progress when they practise every day!



Christmas celebrations!

Nativity Concerts

- These will be held in school on
  Wednesday 9th December 10.00am
  Thursday 10th December 2pm
- Both classes will perform on both occasions.
- You will receive a letter through the school app to select tickets.

Christmas Party

- Our party will be held in school on **Wednesday 16th December.** Children can come to school in non-uniform on this day. Please ensure clothing/footwear is suitable for outdoor play as we will still be playing outside on this day! School will provide some party snacks!

Our learning will focus on developing skills across the Seven Areas of Learning and Development. Here's an overview of what we'll be exploring this term:

Prime Areas

Communication and Language

This half-term we'll be:

- Using lots of new vocabulary linked to our focus books (fiction and non-fiction) and topic and we'll be using these words in play and at group times.
- Listening carefully to stories and talking about the characters and events.
- Sequencing the events in stories so that we can retell them.
- Sharing our own experiences of celebrations and extend spoken sentences by using connectives such as 'and' and 'because' e.g. I love Bonfire Night because I like eating toffee apples.

Physical Development

This half-term we'll be:

- Continuing to practise holding our pencils correctly using 'perfect pencil grip' . Each week we will learn new Read Write Inc rhymes that will help us learn correct letter formations.
- Taking part in our PE lessons every Tuesday (although there may be some disruption to these lessons as we begin to use the hall for our Nativity rehearsals).
- Making sure we can put our clothing (jumpers and coats) on and off by ourselves and using the toilet independently.
- Using our knife and fork to cut our food and eat independently.
- Moulding clay to make our own Diva lamps.



Personal, Social and Emotional

This half-term we'll be:

- Talking about Anti-Bullying week – finding out what a 'bully' is and how this is different to when people are being unkind or making the wrong choice.
- Recognising that it's good to be different!
- Exploring how we can take turns and share.
- Recognising that we are all valuable individuals and that we all may have different celebrations in our families/communities.
- Recognising that it is important to talk about our feelings.
- Recognising that we need to think about other people's feelings and be kind.
- Talking about what makes us feel happy and celebrating our strengths.

Specific Areas

Literacy

This term we'll be:

Reading

- Saying the 'sound' in response to 25 alphabet letters. Some groups may begin to learn that 2 letters make 1 sounds and we call these "special friends" e.g. /sh/ in 'shop'.
- 'Blend' sounds orally in simple words (e.g. Adult say c-a-t, child can hear cat) - this is called 'Fred talk'. We will be learning to read 'green words' using sounds that we know. Some groups will begin to learn red 'tricky' words that we cannot use 'Fred Talk' to read and also begin to read simple captions and sentences.

at	mad	I
sad	dad	you
sat	mat	said

Writing

- Hearing initial, medial and final sounds in words using our 'Fred Fingers' e.g. in dog we can hear the sounds d-o-g. We will be writing the letters that we hear in words. We will begin to write simple captions e.g. pat the dog



Mathematics

This term, we'll be:

- Counting accurately and with 1:1 correspondence so that we don't forget to count some objects, or count others more than once!
- Understanding 'five' by recognising that we have 5 fingers on 1 hand and subitising the die pattern for 5 (knowing it is 5 without counting!).
- Using the language of comparison—'more than', 'fewer than' and 'an equal number'.
- Exploring how 3, 4, and 5 can be made in different ways e.g. 5 can be 2+3, 1+4 etc.
- Verbally counting beyond 20.
- Matching numerals to quantities within 10.



Understanding the World

This term, we'll be:

History

- Talking about why we celebrate Bonfire Night and Remembrance and link our celebrations today to historical events in the past; exploring how we celebrate Christmas in our homes and our traditions.

Science

- Exploring light and dark in our environment; looking at shadows and the shapes that they make.



RE

- Talking about the Hindu /Sikh celebration of Divali and learn that the special building for Hindus is a *Mandir;* learning about the Christian celebration of Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus; learning how babies are welcomed into the Christian church and how we can show by our actions that everyone is precious.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term, we'll be:

Design Technology

- Recognising that clay is a natural building material and that it is strong—we will mould a ball of clay and with guidance create a basic thumb pot.

Art

- Continuing to practise mixing colours in our painting area and applying all the skills we have learnt to make Christmas cards and calendars. We'll be exploring clay and how to manipulate it in preparation for creating our own clay diva lamps to celebrate Divali.

Music

- Singing with a large group; listening to musical sounds and using words like loud, quiet, fast, slow; joining in with Nativity songs and movements, (and performing these in the hall!) moving to the pulse and watching a performance when we see the choir perform at the Christmas service in Church; We will also be learning different ways of playing musical instruments.

