

Happy New Year to you all!

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas break and were able to spend some quality time with your families. What better way to end the Autumn term than to put on a marvellous Christmas nativity for you all to enjoy! I'm sure that you were all impressed with the children's amazing singing, acting and dancing. We felt so proud of all of the children's enthusiasm and confidence to perform.

Our topic last term was 'Let's Celebrate'. We learnt about the Gunpowder Plot, Remembrance Day and Diwali. We thought about the similarities and differences between the different events and discussed how people celebrate them. We thought about others in our community and made beautiful Christmas cards for a local care home to show kindness for those around us.

The children's confidence with numbers is continuing to grow and we have focused on counting, subitising, recognising and writing numbers to 5. We began learning to add with objects and we will continue to build on these skills this half term. We also learnt about repeating patterns, how to continue them and how to create our own as well as naming common 2D shapes and thinking about their properties.

During our phonics sessions, the children have all absolutely loved learning their sounds and learning to blend and segment to read and write. We have also been learning some tricky red sight words that you can't phonetically blend, like I, the, no, my, you and of. Some of us began to write short captions and simple labels, being sure to leave a finger space between words. We have continued to model commenting on and discussing the features of a story, stopping to ask children 'how', 'what', 'why' questions during our story times. The children have also enjoyed the opportunity to create their own stories in our group Tales Toolkit Sessions by structuring their ideas around a Setting, Character, Problem and Solution.

We've also had a big focus on having a go, perseverance, pride and challenge and will continue to develop these and the other Owl behaviours.

As always, if you have any queries, concerns or need any extra support to help your child with their home learning, please post on Tapestry or arrange to meet with us.

Things to Remember

PE day: Friday. Please come dressed in PE kits.

Reading Folders: Please send reading folders, including the reading record and book each day so that we are able to regularly read with the children.

We are always on the hunt for ways to inspire our children: if you are able to come and share a hobby, skill, what you do for work or anything you think our children might appreciate please, please do let us know as we'd warmly welcome you to come, talk and show our children.

Tips to support your child at home

Practising letter formation following the RWI rhymes on the cards shared during Autumn.

Occasional questions on daily post on Tapestry.

Daily Reading with your child helps to build imagination and vocabulary.

This can be done before bed time or at any point in the day. Predicting what may come next in a story will help to deepen their understanding.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th Jan

Pause Day (World Religion Day)

Wednesday 29th Jan

Chinese New Year

Wednesday 5th Feb

Parent Assembly

Tue 11th Feb

Safer Internet Day
Parents Evening - Online

Thursday 13th Feb

Parents Evening - Face to Face

Friday 14th Feb

Valentine's Day

Reception Spring Term 1 – The Wonders of Winter

Week	Suggested Contexts for Learning	Upcoming Dates for Diary
Week 1 06.01.25 - 10.01.25	Seasonal Changes – Winter Tales Toolkit – Create a story with a winter theme Alive in 5	
Week 2 13.01.25- 17.01.25	Class Text – Don't Wake up the Bear – Introducing the Story Winter animals around the world. Alive in 5	Pause Day
Week 3 20.01.25- 24.01.25	Class Text – Don't Wake up the Bear – Learning the Story Hibernating Animals Mass and capacity	Burns Night Magic Pebbles Workshops
Week 4 27.01.25-	Class Text – Don't Wake up the Bear – Learning the Story Hibernating Animals Growing 6, 7, 8	