



YEAR R NEWSLETTER 6.1.2026

Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. A huge thank you for your generous Christmas gifts, cards, and kind words. We are truly grateful for your thoughtfulness.

The children have been telling us all about their lovely holidays. They have remembered our routines very well and we are looking forward to another successful term ahead.

Phonics

This week the children are consolidating previous sounds and words learnt. The main focus for Phonics this term is to blend letters to read words and sentences.

The children will be learning new ways to make sounds such as double letters which I will share as we learn them.



Maths– Alive in 5

This week we will be learning about the number 'zero'. We will be doing lots of songs counting backwards eg. five little speckled frogs. At home, try to use the word zero eg. instead of saying none left say there is zero left.

Topic

Our new topic for the term is Winter. Please see the topic overview attached to get an idea of our learning.

This week we will focus on winter clothing. This overview and those for RE and Maths can be found on the website.

Cold weather

If you provide your child with hat, scarf, gloves etc. please ensure that they are labelled. Also if any child is wearing a new coat, make sure that is labelled and help your child to learn how to do their zip or buttons.

Thank you for your continued support.

Term 3 Topic: Winter

Stories/Books		One Winter's Day, Lost in the Snow, One Snowy Night, Betty and the Yeti, Charlie Crow and the <u>Snow Goldilocks</u> and the Three Bears We're Going on a Bear Hunt	
Area of learning		Early Learning Goal (small steps)	Activities/Ideas
<u>Communication and Language</u>	Listening, Attention and Understanding	respond with relevant questions	Listen and respond to stories Ask questions about the characters in the story
		Make comments about what they have heard	Use drama and 'hot seating' from the character point of view.
	Speaking	participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions	Retell stories- model using the past tense as something that already happened.
		make use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, Use past tense	Use vocabulary related to the changing of the seasons
<u>Personal, Social and Emotional</u>	Self-Regulation	Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others	Discuss the feelings of characters in the stories eg. baby bear- why was he upset?
		Set and work towards simple goals	How could we make him feel better? Plan a way to make the bear feel better.
<u>Physical Development</u>	Fine Motor skills	show accuracy and care when drawing	Create winter pictures Use small tools to rescue small world characters from ice
		use a range of small tools	
<u>Literacy</u>	Comprehension	Retell stories using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary	Retell stories Predict what will happen next in a story and communicate this through drawing or writing.
		anticipate key events in stories (predict)	
	Writing	spell words by identifying sounds in them	Label pictures of stories Label winter items
write simple phrases		Make story maps	
<u>Understanding the World</u>	People, Culture and Communities	describe their immediate environment	Observe the changes in the environment in the winter. Take part in the RSPB Birdwatch
	The Natural World	understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them	Investigate freezing and melting. Investigate animal footprints.
		understand changing states of matter	
<u>Expressive Arts and Design</u>	Creating with Materials	safely use and explore a variety of materials,	Make bird feeders Make shelters for animals Create junk model snow monsters
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	invent narratives and stories	Create their own stories based on those we have read.