



**Welcome** Happy New Year.

Thank you for all the Christmas wishes, cards and gifts. The children made a fantastic start last term and I'm sure you will agree that they were amazing in their Nativity production. This term we will build upon this knowledge, skills and confidence to move their learning forward even further.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Good to be me- celebrating differences. Identifying and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally.
- own feelings and noticing/considering those of others

### Communication and Language

- increasing vocabulary across all areas of learning
- constructing simple sentences
- asking questions using "What, Why, How, When, Where"

### Physical Development

Gross motor - PE; Ball Skills - dribbling, pushing, throwing & catching, patting or kicking.

Dance; Moving to music. Gymnastics; Balance

Fine motor - letter formation, refining size for those who are developmentally ready. Scissor skills

## Foundation Stage Newsletter Spring 2026

### Literacy -

Phonics - recap phase 2, continue to learn Phase 3 digraphs (two letters one sound) and trigraphs (three letters one sound). Emphasis on applying knowledge to reading and writing.

Reading - Tricky words (Common Exception Words)

Writing - labels, captions and construct simple sentences for a range of everyday purposes; instruction writing, messages, diagrams of machine and simple stories.

- Some of our Key Texts are; Things Come Apart - Todd McLellan; Mrs Armitage Queen of the Road - Quinten Blake; An engineer like me - Shini Somara; Tom's Magnificent Machines - Linda Sarah and Ben Mantle

### Mathematical Development



Pupils will continue to develop their subitising and counting skills and explore the composition of numbers within and beyond 5. They will begin to identify when two sets are equal or unequal and connect two equal groups to doubles. They will begin to connect quantities to numerals.

Pupils will:

- continue to develop their subitising skills for numbers within and beyond 5, and increasingly connect quantities to numerals
- begin to identify missing parts for numbers within 5
- explore the structure of the numbers 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit' and connect this to finger patterns and the Hungarian number frame
- focus on equal and unequal groups when comparing numbers
- understand that two equal groups can be called a 'double' and connect this to finger patterns
- sort odd and even numbers according to their 'shape'
- continue to develop their understanding of the counting sequence and link cardinality and ordinality through the 'staircase' pattern
- order numbers and play track games
- join in with verbal counts beyond 20, hearing the repeated pattern within the counting numbers

**Other Key Vocabulary:** mass/heavier/lighter; capacity/full/ half full/ nearly full/ nearly empty/empty; length/height/measure/longer /taller/shorter; time/before/now/after.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- Everyday machines, can they design their own? What could it do? How would it be powered?
- Painting a bird
- Photographer Todd McClellan's work on 'Things Come Apart' <https://www.toddmclellan.com/thingscomeapart>

### Useful websites

NSPCC - Talking to your child about online safety  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>  
Childnet - Keeping under fives safe online  
<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/keeping-young-children-safe-online/>  
Cbeebies - Make & Colour Section  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/cbeebies-creative-lab>

Understanding the World - Christian Values; Humility, Forgiveness and Service. - RE -  
Salvation; How can we help others when they need it?

- Exploring 'Marvellous Machines'. Have fun completing the 'Machine Hunt' at home. We will be learning about how we use many of these everyday machines, and how others might use them. Then we will move on to investigate how vehicles are machines; and find out about different emergency vehicles. Also we will explore how machines have changed over time; that they use energy (steam, electric - including batteries, from us); and how some materials are magnetic whilst others are not. Amberley Museum Trip to finish the topic.
- Big Schools Bird Watch - identification of common garden birds & feeding the birds; data to be submitted by half-term.
- Purple Mash - Creating Pictures. At home have a look at the CBeebies Make and Colour section.

### Important Dates

PE - Hall Slot - Tuesday Afternoons

6<sup>th</sup> January - Epiphany

4<sup>th</sup> February, 9am - Class Assembly to share learning with parents

10<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day

17<sup>th</sup> February - Chinese New Year

13<sup>th</sup> February - INSET day SCHOOL CLOSED

Half-Term 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February SCHOOL CLOSED

Looking Ahead:

4<sup>th</sup> March - Class Photos

5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day

13<sup>th</sup> March - Reports coming home

17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March, 3.30 - 6pm - Parents Evenings

25<sup>th</sup> March - Disco

26<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Eucharist

- Easter Eggstravaganza

27<sup>th</sup> March INSET day SCHOOL CLOSED

- End of Term

Return to School on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME: in order to maximise the progress your child makes at school it is VITAL that you support them at home. Daily activities using the PHONICS FLASHCARDS, daily reading of their BIG CAT scheme book (remember to write in their reading log), regular counting and talking about numbers in their environment.

### EMAIL -

Communication is important to us - please do send us an email if you have a worry.

We will be sharing pictures and comments to show what your child has been up to on the Class Dojo page!



General Reminders - If someone else is collecting your child then please let the Office know.

**We are a NUT-FREE school**



Book Bags - Please bring these in everyday, Reading Logs will be checked regularly and we want to work with your child as much as possible. **BOOKS ONLY** in these please.

Water Bottle - Please bring in daily and ensure it is named.

Always ensure your child has a named waterproof coat - we will be outside every day no matter what the weather.

THINK WEATHER! Hats, gloves, sunhats, sunscreen?

**Please check regularly and make sure everything is NAMED.**