



January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a restful and merry Christmas.

Please find attached an overview of the main topics and subjects we will be covering in Reception this spring term. This term we will be covering 'Polar Explorers' and 'Minibeasts Galore'.

We always encourage children to extend their learning beyond the classroom. Please upload photos to Tapestry so that we are able to share them with the rest of the class.

If you have concerns about your child's educational or social development, please contact the school office to make an appointment as the beginning of the school day can be busy.

Kind regards,

Mrs Miller

Class 1 Teacher

Key Dates:

13th February - BREAK-UP FOR HALF-TERM

Monday 23rd February - BACK TO SCHOOL

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day



Friday 13th March - Mothers' Day Service in church at 2.30pm

Thursday 2nd April - Easter Service in church at 2.30pm

Thursday 2nd April - LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM

Monday 20th April - FIRST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

***The roots to grow, the wings to fly.
All within the love of God.***

<p>Spring 1 topic - Polar Explorers</p> 		<p>Spring 2 topic - Minibeasts Galore!</p> 	
<p><u>Daily expectations</u></p> <p>Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat and a bottle filled with water in school daily.</p> <p>Ensure their reading record and reading book is in their book bag. It is essential for them to read regularly at home and sign their record whenever you read together. Please also ensure the reading record is signed weekly.</p> <p><u>Tapestry</u> Please check your child's Tapestry regularly for photos of their learning, support at home and important messages.</p>	<p><u>Phonics</u></p> <p>The children will be continuing their phonics journey through the Little Wandle programme. They will progress through the scheme learning phase 3 phonemes and tricky words. Children will have daily phonics lessons in school to help support them to read. They will be using taught phonemes to spell longer words and put these into sentences. We will also be starting the Little Wandle handwriting scheme alongside phonics.</p> <p>The weekly focus phonemes and tricky words will be sent home in their reading records.</p>	<p><u>English</u></p> <p>In spring term 1 the children will be exploring the story 'Poles Apart' learning new vocabulary and using their phonic knowledge to write words and captions linked to the text. In handwriting they will practise writing letters from the curly and long letter family.</p> <p>In spring term 2 we focus on <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i> by Eric Carle and <i>Mad About Minibeasts!</i> by Giles-Andreae. We focus on sequencing the text whilst developing spelling and writing sentence structure.</p>	<p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>In spring 1, the children will focus on subitising amounts to 5 and finding 1 more than a given number. They will explore missing numbers in number patterns and develop their knowledge of how numbers are made up of '5 and a bit more'.</p> <p>In spring 2, they will learn 1 more and less to 10 and compare numbers based on this. They will also explore even and uneven groups linking to doubles and even/uneven groups.</p> <p>Throughout the spring term, they will continue to develop their understanding of shapes and make patterns such as patterns in a round.</p>
<p><u>PE</u></p> <p>Class 1 have PE lessons on Tuesdays and Fridays this term. Please note that Achieve for All will deliver PE in school on Tuesdays. The focus of this term will be dance and then ball skills.</p> <p>Please ensure your child wears their kit to school on a Tuesday and has their kit in school for Fridays and it is appropriate for the weather. The kit needed is navy blue shorts, a red t-shirt, and trainers. For cold weather, dark tracksuits and a dark jumper. Please note earrings need to be removed for PE.</p>	<p><u>Understanding the world</u></p> <p>As part of their Polar Explorers topic, Reception will learn about significant explorers in history such as Robert Scott and look at historic pictures of explorers.</p> <p>They will explore how ice is formed through freezing and melting and the geographical differences in polar regions compared to England.</p> <p>Children are introduced to the concept of a timeline as they look closely at how things change over time including plants and animals.</p> <p>The children will observe the seasonal changes, noticing variations in temperature and signs of new life.</p>	<p><u>Expressive Arts and Design</u></p> <p>In Music Class 1 will develop their knowledge of nursery rhymes and action songs. They will explore pitch and rhythm, using instruments to accompany songs learnt.</p> <p>The children will explore materials creatively, drawing representational pictures of polar animals and using mixed media to create polar landscapes.</p> <p>During our minibeasts topic, they learn to use clay and natural materials to create sculptures</p> <p>In continuous provision the children will have access to a creative area where they design and make their own models.</p>	<p><u>Forest School</u></p> <p>Class 1 will have forest school every Monday. Please ensure your child has wellies, a waterproof coat, waterproof trousers and warm clothes to wear.</p> <p>As always, Forest School learning is play based and child initiated. The children are guided by their own interests and the adults present will support their needs wherever possible.</p>
<p><u>Religious Education</u></p> <p>Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. We will observe different cultural and religious celebrations as well as Easter and Passover.</p>		<p><u>Personal, social and emotional development</u></p> <p>The focus for the spring term is living in the wider world. We will discuss what it means to belong to a community, online safety and money and work.</p>	