

Reception Newsletter



Hello and welcome to the Spring Term edition of our Reception Newsletter. We had a very busy Autumn and learnt lots. Our Nativity was a huge success. Thank you for coming to watch us perform it.

Attendance

Make the most of your child's education—bring her/him to school EVERY DAY on time.

Children with poor attendance make slower progress. Attendance below 96% is a cause for concern and needs improvement. Children with attendance below 90% are regarded as persistent absentees.

If a child is taken out of school without the Head Teacher's authorisation, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. This may lead to the issuing of a penalty notice and legal action being taken.

The court can fine each parent up to £1,000 per child, order payment of the prosecution costs and/or make a Parenting Order. Please note that penalties and prosecutions are in respect of each parent for each child.

At a recent court hearing for unauthorised absence Magistrates imposed a fine of £220, costs of £125 and a victim surcharge of £30; a total of £375 for each parent of a pupil at Holly Hill School

Last half term the children really enjoyed our 'Festivals' topic. We learnt all about Birthdays, the Nativity and Christmas. The children really enjoyed learning new songs and acting in our play. We were very proud of them.

Open Evening

Thank you to all of the parents who attended parents evening. We had 96% attendance in Cedar Class and 81% in Willow Class. The children really do appreciate you coming into school to look at all their hard work. **Our next opening evening is Wednesday, 14th February 3.10-5.00pm.** We would love it if every child could share their work with an adult. Let's see if we can get 100%!

Home Reading



Well done to all of the children who have been reading their books at home. Please remember to sign your child's reading diary and make any comments about your child's progress. You can let us know if there are any words or sounds that they have struggles with or if they found the book too easy. Books will only be changed if reading diaries have been signed.

Reading together is really important. Please remember we expect children to read their reading books and words with you every night at home.

Thank you for working with us to enable your child to reach their full potential.

Book Bags need to be in school everyday.

PE Kits



PE takes place every **Wednesday**. There are still a number of children without a full PE kit. **Please make sure that a FULL PE kit is kept in school at all times. Label each item of clothing with your child's name.** We will send home PE kits at the end of every half term.

To reach Age Related Expectation at the end of Reception, children must be able to dress independently. That means changing clothes, fastening buttons and putting on socks and shoes. Many children cannot do this yet.

Please practise these skills at home.

Dates for your diary



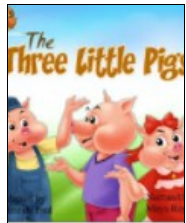
Tuesday 16th January — Cedar Class
visit to St. Johns Church

Tuesday 23rd January—Maths Workshop
2:30pm

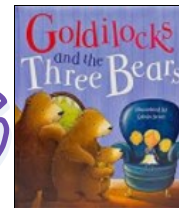
Tuesday 30th January — Willow Class visit to St. Johns Church

Thursday 15th February—Chinese New Year

Wednesday 14th February—Open Evening 3.10—5pm



Traditional Tales



Our topic this term is Traditional Tales. We will be learning many stories this term. The children will be introduced to a variety of fiction and non fiction texts. We will be discussing where the stories are set and describing the different characters. We will focus heavily on acting out these stories and telling these stories to our friends. We will also become story tellers ourselves and make changes to the traditional tales. Please have a go at making changes to your favourite traditional tale with your child.



In **phonics** the children will continue to learn the phase 2 phonemes and begin to learn the Phase 3 phonemes and digraphs. We have been segmenting and blending phonemes to read new words and we are now moving on to reading captions. The children will continue to practise the Phase 2 tricky words and learn the Phase 3 tricky words too. **Please continue to support us by reading these at home every night.**



In **Maths** we will continue to learn about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We continue to add, order and recognise numbers up to 20. Many of the children can now recognise numerals up to 10. We will continue to practise these and learn the numerals 10-20 this half term. We will be exploring capacity, weight, size and positional language and subtraction. Our Maths workshop will help you with ideas for activities at home.

Our Christian Values underpin all that we do. The children will be taught our values in the following ways this half term:

Respect: The children will learn through stories that respect is important and that we should treat everybody and everything with respect. We will learn what happens when people do not show respect.

Kindness: The children will learn about how to be kind to friends. In RE we will learn about Jesus' friends.

Joy: The children will be learning about how good can overcome evil in the Traditional stories we share.

Love: The children will learn about how Jesus loved everybody and how he showed this love.

Thankfulness: The children will learn how to be thankful for what they have.

Friendship: The children will experience what makes a good friend through the stories we read and through our circle time sessions.