

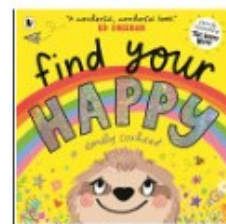
KS 1 and EYFS Autumn 2 Newsletter 2026



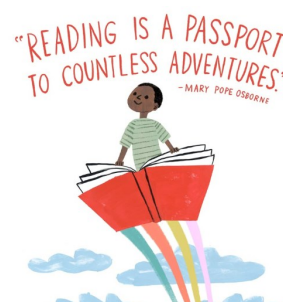
What has happened this half-term?

All four classes have settled well into their new routines and have enjoyed learning lots of new things and earning dojo points.

We had fun on Hello Yellow Day, where we heard the story 'Find your Happy' and discussed what we do to help cheer ourselves up when we are feeling angry, shy, sad or lonely– so many good ideas shared! We also enjoyed joining the rest of the school for a dance on the playground– a great mood boost!



Y1 and Y2 have been busy getting started with Read-a-Rainbow. The more they read at home, the more bookmarks they can complete. Just like a rainbow, there are 7 coloured bookmarks to complete. Your child has lots of books to choose from– their reading book, school library book or why not visit the local library in Ilkeston over half term? Reading is key to so many doors unlocking and evidence shows, the more children read and are read to, the greater awareness of the world they have and it truly unlocks their imaginations.



EYFS loved their bike and scooter day– this also brought back fond memories for Y1 and Y2 children who spoke positively about their experiences. A big well done to all the EYFS children for showing safety awareness, resilience and for taking part in this popular event.

EYFS have doing really well within their daily phonic lessons, they are learning the Little Wandle routines, which help to embed new learning. Little Wandle is the phonics scheme we use in school, for EYFS through to Y2. If you would like to know more about phonics and how you can support your child at home, please visit;

<https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

There are some really informative videos for parents found on the Little Wandle website. These videos include showing how our sounds are pronounced. This not only then helps with reading, but also with writing as simple words can be segmented.

Calling all authors...

500 Words, the UK's largest story writing competition for 5-11 year-olds, is now open for entries! The deadline is: **9pm, Friday 6 November.**

Children are encouraged to write a story they would love to read themselves.

For all the information on how to enter, the rules and the prizes, please visit;

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zctk7v4#zbx4jfr>



Key Reminders 1—Labels

Please, label every item of clothing, including plimsols. Within the first half term all classes had jumpers, socks and cardigans left with no names in. The children cannot distinguish which item of clothing belongs to them and staff are unable to support returning items without names clearly marked. Thank you for your support!



Online Safety for Reception & KS1 – Guidance for Parents at Home

Young children in Reception and KS1 are naturally curious and eager to explore, which makes the internet a wonderful learning tool—but also a place where they need careful guidance. At this age, it's important to supervise their online activity closely, use child-friendly websites and apps, and set clear boundaries for screen time. Encourage them to ask for help if they see something unfamiliar or upsetting, and remind them never to share personal information such as their name, address, or school. Using parental controls, safe search settings, and discussing simple rules like “stop, think, and ask” can help build good habits early. Most importantly, keep conversations open so your child feels comfortable talking to you about what they see and do online.

Top tips for online safety in Reception and KS1:

- ☐ Supervise – Always watch or be nearby when your child is online.
- ☐ Use child-friendly sites – Stick to age-appropriate apps, games, and websites.
- ☐ Set screen time limits – Balance online activities with play, reading, and rest.
- ☐ Talk openly – Encourage your child to tell you if something feels strange or upsetting.
- ☐ No personal info – Remind them not to share their name, address, school, or photos.
- ☐ Parental controls – Use safe search settings and filters to block unsuitable content.
- ☐ Stop, think, ask – Teach them to pause and check with you before clicking or sharing.



The Importance of Sleep



Quality sleep is essential for children's growth and development. A decent night's sleep will help with memory, allow them to react more quickly to situations and make them less susceptible to colds and other minor ailments.

Sleep deprivation can cause increased hyperactivity, and can lead to difficulties with physical and mental development. Poor sleep habits from an early age can lead to long term sleep problems, which is something we would like to help to avoid.

Problems can occur for a whole host of reasons; anxiety, bedtime routine, bedroom environment, feeling hungry/ thirsty, screen time, nightmare or night terrors, sensory difficulties to name a few.

If you are one of the many parents whose child experiences difficulties with their sleep for whatever reason, then the following website could make a world of difference and is worth taking some time to read;

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/>

Autumn 2 - Year 2 Curriculum

English

Fiction—The Shadow Strikes by Pie Corbett
(Suspense)



Non-Fiction - Meer-
kat Mail by Emily
Gravett (Letter)



Maths

Addition and Subtraction

Shape

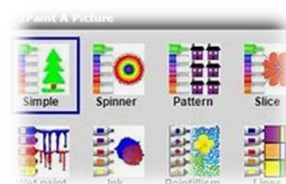
Science

Uses of Everyday
Materials



Computing

Creating pictures



History

The Great Fire of London



Design and Technology

Textiles

Sewing



PSHE

Celebrating Differences



Thrive

Our individual class focus



Religion and Worldviews

Why does Christmas matter to
Christians?



Music

Orchestral
Instruments



PE

Outdoor PE: Sending and receiving

Indoor PE: Dance



Rabbits:

Indoor – Thursday

Outdoor – Friday

Please remember– earrings **MUST** be removed.

Autumn 2 - Year 1 Curriculum

English

We will use 'The Rhythm of Life' by Michael Rosen to inspire our animal poetry.

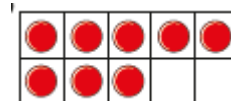


The story of 'Little Red Riding Hood' will help us to consider character descriptions.

We will also be focusing on forming the letters of the alphabet and placing them neatly on the lines, along with spelling common exception words.

Maths

Addition and Subtraction to 10



Geometry– 3D & 2D shapes



Science

Naming and sorting everyday materials



Computing

Creative computing



Art & Design

Painting and mixed media focusing on colour



Design and Technology

Moving pictures- mechanisms and levers



PSHE

Celebrating Differences



Thrive

Our individual class focus



Religion and Worldviews

What do Jewish people believe?



Music

Learning songs for our Nativity.



PE

Outdoor PE: Sending and Receiving

Indoor PE: Dance



PE takes place each Tuesday and Thursday.

Please remember– earrings MUST be removed.

Year 1 Pop-up Books Needed!

In Design and Technology the children will be exploring pop up books– if you have any pop-up/ lift the flap books at home, please send them (ensuring your child's name is clearly on the book so it can easily be returned) in so that we can explore as many as possible. These are needed for **Tuesday 3rd November**. These will be returned home by the end of the week.

Reception Curriculum- What will the children be learning this term?

Below is a brief overview of what we will be learning this term. Our Topic is all about Time detectives. We have lots of interesting and exciting activities planned for the children. This is a lovely half term to make use of the seasonal changes too whilst out and about.

Week	Topic	Literacy	Phonics	Maths
1	Bonfire Night- Why do we celebrate bonfire night?	Traditional tales 3 little pigs	ff ss ll j	It's me—1,2,3 (counting, subitising, composing, identifying more/less)
2	Florence Night- ingale – How did Florence help make hospitals better today?	3 little pigs	v w x y	It's me—1,2,3 (counting, subitising, composing, identifying more/less)
3	Space / Neil Armstrong What is it like to be in space? Who is Neil Armstrong?	Little red riding hood	z zz qu	Circles and Triangles
4	Where have all the dinosaurs gone?	Little red riding hood	sh th ng nk	Numbers -1,2,3,4,5 (counting, subitising, composing, identifying more/less, bonds)
5	What were toys like over 100 years ago?	Goldilocks	words ending in s	Numbers -1,2,3,4,5 (counting, subitising, composing, identifying more/less, bonds)
6	How did people wash their clothes over a 100 years ago? How do we wash our clothes now?	Goldilocks	words ending in s /z/	Shapes with 4 sides
7	Christmas	Nativity Story	Review and assess	Review

Upcoming dates: (Please refer to our whole school newsletter for any additional information or updated dates)

2.11.26 Return to school

13.11.26 Children in Need

W/C: 16.11.26 Anti-bullying week. Wear odd socks Monday 16th November

8.12.26 EYFS& KS1 Nativity 2:30pm

9.12.26 & 10.12.26 EYFS&KS1 Nativity 9:15am

10.12.26—Year 1 and 2 Film Night

18.12.26 Break-up for Christmas

4.1.26 INSET

5.1.26 Children back to school—Spring Term begins



Nut Allergies

Please be aware that we have children in school who could have an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nut traces. Please only send your children to school with packed lunches that **do not contain nuts or products containing nut traces**. This **includes Nutella and other chocolate spreads/products** that contain nut traces or may contain nut traces.

Thank you!



Reception and KS1 Nativity

This year we are pleased to announce Y2 children will be performing 'Everyone Loves a Baby'. Y1 will have supporting roles, either performing or singing, whilst Reception children will sing. Costume letters will be sent home (Y1&2 children) with plenty of time for any items to be located and sent into school. The majority of costumes will be provided by school.



If your Y2 child is given lines to learn, please help them by practising their lines at home. Reception children will be able to wear a Christmas jumper for the performances.

All children will take home a ticket letter, explaining how the tickets will be distributed/requested— so keep a look out for this in your child's bag. You know when we are heading to Christmas when the Nativity songs start to be sung!