

Understanding of the World

We will explore 'Winter' and investigate how ice and frost changes when it melts. We will look closely at frost on winter walks, create ice decorations and find out where they will melt the fastest. We will also learn about the frozen lands of the Arctic and Antarctica and compare these places to our locality.



We will learn about how Chinese New Year is celebrated and explore Chinese customs.



Our learning will be focussed around the 7 areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The children will play and learn through our Continuous Provision (we call this Discovery Time) in the classroom, outdoor area and school garden and also through adult-led learning activities.

Please bring a named **water bottle**, warm waterproof **coat** (we will be outside in all weathers!) and **bookbag** to school every day. **Please name all coats, hats, gloves and scarves to help us keep everything safe.**

Please keep wellies in school for our outdoor activities. Please bring in a **PE kit** which will be kept in school on your child's peg and sent home every half term holiday. **Please name all clothes and daps/trainers in PE bags.**

We will have **PE every Thursday** with Mr Croucher, our Sports Coach.

Phonics and Reading

We will continue to learn new letter sounds and also '**Special Friends**' sounds where sounds are represented by two letters. Please continue to support your child with the sounds in the little green sound books. We will learn to read **green words** with '**Fred Talk – read the word**'.



Reading Books

The children will bring home blending books, Ditty sheets in a folder, or red reading books. Please write in your child's yellow reading record every time they read at home. They will continue to bring home a different 'sharing book' each week.

Communication & Language and Literacy

We will share the story of '**One Snowy Night**', re-tell the events and find out how animals keep warm in winter. We will also share the Traditional Chinese Tale of '**The Magic Paintbrush**' and explore how Shen uses her magic paintbrush in the story.



We will continue to practise correct letter formation using the RWI rhymes. We will write words using 'Fred Fingers, Pinch the Sounds' and learn to write phrases.

Reception Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 1 2026

**Our topic this half term is
WINTER WONDERLAND**



Social and Emotional Development

Our **JIGSAW PSHE** theme is all about 'Dreams and Goals'. We will explore why it is good to try new things and explore what we want to get better at. We will set ourselves simple goals and celebrate all the things we are good at!

We will develop an understanding of our own past and talk about how we have changed since we were babies.

Physical Development

We will develop motor skills through funky finger activities such as moulding with plasticine, lacing and building with construction kits. We will continue to strengthen our tripod pencil grip and draw different shapes in 'pen disco' sessions. We will develop our climbing and balancing skills on stilts, obstacle courses and planks in the outdoor area. We will also develop core strength by pushing and pulling on skateboards, bouncing on space hoppers and pedalling trikes.

Mathematical Development We will learn to identify when two sets are equal or unequal and connect two equal groups to double. We will match quantities to numerals and order numbers. We will join in with verbal counting beyond 20, hearing the repeated pattern. We will learn to understand and use positional language such as under, over and beside.



Expressive Arts and Design

We will explore colour mixing to create paintings and collages of cold landscapes. We will create wintry trees with twigs that we collect in the garden. We will explore how to create 3D structures with snowy playdough, and dragon junk modelling. We will have a big focus on scissor skills and learn to cut in straight, curved and zigzag lines. We will create Chinese lanterns and streamers and move imaginatively to music as we create our Chinese New Year dragon dance.