



EYFS Newsletter: Term 3 Jan - Feb 2025



Elder



Mulberry



Welcome Back

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful time over Christmas. Thank you for all the kind messages and gifts you shared with us. We wish you all happiness and health in 2025.



Learning this term

The texts we have chosen for this term incorporate the themes of Winter, Lunar New Year and Space. You can see all the key texts on the Term 3 Curriculum Map along with details of the key learning we will be covering across the term. Our curriculum maps also include ideas on how to support and extend learning at home.

Phonics

Early this term, we will introduce the remaining new graphemes to be taught in Reception. We will also teach new common exception words. Please ensure word bags are kept inside book bags so we can add new words and practise in school. We will then focus on applying our new learning within our reading and writing. We will continue to send home the weekly 'Learning to Read with Phonics' sheets and use Evidence Me to keep you informed of new learning.

Reading at home

While children are learning to read, they need lots and lots of practice. It makes a real difference when children regularly read to their grown ups at home as this accelerates progress. Please try to listen to your child read every day or at least 3 times a week. They do not have to read the whole book every time and might focus on reading just a couple of pages but re-reading with expression and rhythm. Please continue to share quality story books with your child.



Big Garden Bird Watch

As part of observing British winter, we pay particular attention to garden birds in week 3. This coincides with the RSPB's 'Big Garden Birdwatch'. You can do this at home. Choose an hour between 24th and 26th Jan to observe and record the birds you see in your garden. Sign up online <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch> We will be having a go at the Big Schools' Birdwatch in school.

Equipment for School

Your child should continue to bring their book bag to school every day. Inside the book bag should be: the yellow reading record; a decodable reading book; a sharing book and their common exception word bag. Water bottles must also be brought to school every day. Please do not carry water bottles in book bags as this can cause damage to reading books. Your child should also have a P.E. kit that stays in school. All items must be clearly named - including the bags themselves.



Parent workshops

This term we will run a session to help parents and carers better understand fine motor development and give ideas of fun activities you can do at home to support this development. There will be a short talk given by the teacher before your child can come and try out activities with you. Dates TBC.

Zips, Buttons and Getting Changed

The cold winter months provide great opportunities for children to practise getting their coats, jumpers, boots etc on and off on their own. We will be encouraging independence with this.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year falls on Wednesday 29th Jan this year. As part of our learning about this colourful festival, we will spend a week learning about customs before celebrating on Friday 31st January. No uniform is required on this day and children are invited to come to school wearing something red.



Language for Life

To begin our work with the 'Language for Life' programme, we will assess all children using the Wellcomm language and communication toolkit.

Key Dates

Tuesday 7th Jan: First day back to school
Weekend 24th - 26th Jan: Big Garden Birdwatch
Friday 31st Jan: Wear something red for Chinese New Year
Monday 10th February: EYFS Stay and Play
Friday 14th Feb: Last Day of Term

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Upham, Mrs Holt, Mrs Dando, Miss Clark, Mrs Willcox and Mrs Jordan