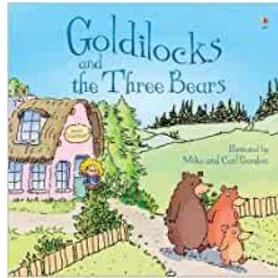


Early Years Topic Letter - Autumn 2 2025

TERRIFIC TALES!



Welcome back to what looks like another busy term!

As always if you ever have any queries, please do not hesitate to catch me at drop off or pick up or via tapestry.

This half terms topic is terrific tales, so one of the stories we will be focusing our learning around is - *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*, alongside many others that I am sure the children will lead us to with their curiosity.

Important dates:

Toddlery play will continue each Wednesday between 9.30 and 10.30 am and our nursery children will continue to join in with these sessions

Tuesday 4th November - whole school open morning with a focus on maths - 9-10am

Thursday 6th November - Individual photos - **please can your child come in full school uniform**

Tuesday 18th November - Reception vision screening

Tuesday 25th November - 1.15-2.45 - Christmas special - Babes in the wood forest school session

Tuesday 2nd December - Our surprise Christmas treat

Tuesday 9th December - EYFS/Class 1 nativity - 10am - dress rehearsal (ideal for babies and younger children), 2pm

Tuesday 16th December - EYFS/Class 1 Christmas lunch and party - own Christmas clothes

Friday 19th December - Christmas service at church - 2pm, break up for the Christmas holidays

Gentle reminders:

Drop off for all children is 8.45am

Please remember a waterproof coat at all times, we go out in all weathers! As the weather has changed and is now colder a hat and gloves may be needed, water bottles and spare clothes in your child's bag are also essential please. Please make sure every item of clothing and water bottle is clearly marked with your child's name. This makes it easier for us to make sure items are not lost and are reunited with their owner quickly.

Tapestry Reminder - Please check your child's Tapestry account regularly to stay updated on their learning and next steps. It's a great way to see what we've been doing in class and to talk about school with your child.

Home Achievements - Feel free to upload any special moments or achievements from home—this helps us celebrate your child's progress together.

Communication - Tapestry is our only platform for messages and reminders, so please keep an eye on it.

Reading & RWI Sounds - For Reception children, reading at home and practising RWI sounds is a key focus. Please record any practice in your child's reading record, along with any notes—this helps us support learning at home and school.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will continue to always reinforce positive behaviour in EYFS. Supporting the children to develop their personal, social and emotional development is at the core of what we do in every way. This half term we will place particular emphasis on:

Getting on and falling out

How to deal with anger

Self - Confidence

Build constructive and respectful relationships

Ask children to explain to others how they thought about a problem or an emotion and how they dealt with it

Physical Development



We're continuing to build **independence skills!**
Children will practise:

- Putting on shoes, wellies, and coats
- Using the toilet and recognising when they need a nappy change
- Peeling fruit and inserting straws into milk

How You Can Help at Home

Encourage your child to dress themselves, put on their coat, and wash their hands independently.

Motor Skills Development

We'll be strengthening **fine and gross motor skills** through:

- **Dough Disco and Squiggle While You Wiggle**
- **Name writing** and pencil control
- Activities like pinching, threading, stacking, brushing, and using tweezers

Reception children will focus on **accurate letter formation**, while Nursery children will begin **name writing** if ready.

RE



This half term Reception will take part in RE sessions and our focus this term will

Communication and Language



We develop the children's listening and attention, understanding and speaking skills all the time and often based on your child's next

<p>continue to be looking at being special and where we belong, we will cover this by looking at some Multi -faith comparative units.</p> <p>We will be learning:</p> <p>To have an awareness of our Christian Church community as well as other religions and beliefs.</p> <p>To understand why Christmas is special to Christians.</p>	<p>steps as the children often have specific areas to work on.</p> <p>This half term we will be focusing on:</p> <p>Learning the story of 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears' and learning new vocabulary in relation to the story and characters.</p> <p>Singing and learning lots of new and familiar nursery rhymes. As well as Christmas songs.</p>
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Reception Literacy



Phonics (RWInc Set 1 Sounds) - We'll continue daily *Speed Sounds* sessions to help children recognise and pronounce pure sounds, then blend them into simple CVC words (e.g. *cat, top, sit*).

New sounds will be sent home as they are taught—please practise little and often. A quick note in your child's reading record helps us stay connected between home and school.

Red Words - We'll begin learning *red words* like *my* and *me*—these can't be sounded out and must be learned by sight.

Writing Skills - Children will start labelling pictures and writing for different purposes using initial sounds and single words.

Correct letter formation is key—please use the RWI rhymes and letter formation sheets sent home to support this.

Sound Awareness - We'll explore rhyming and alliteration through games, songs, and rhymes

to build sound discrimination—an essential skill for fluent reading.

Speaking & Listening -Our focus text is *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We'll retell the story using actions and story maps, compare it with other traditional tales, and share our thoughts and opinions.

Mark Making & Writing Activities -We'll encourage:

- Dominant hand use and tripod grip
- Meaningful mark making and labelling
- Writing shopping lists, captions, speech bubbles, and wanted posters for *Goldilocks*

Nursery Literacy

We'll be focusing on:

- **Nursery Rhymes:** Learning and retelling familiar and new rhymes
- **Focus Text:** *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* - retelling the story with actions and engaging in themed activities

Mark Making & Early Writing

Children will begin:

- Writing their names
- Exploring mark making using chalk, pens, crayons, water, and sensory trays
- Taking part in *Squiggle While You Wiggle* sessions to build early writing skills in a fun, active way
- Drawing and talking about their creations and marks

Phonics (Phase 1)

Daily sessions will develop:

- **Sound discrimination**
- **Listening skills**

Maths



Nursery Maths

This half term we will focus on:
Developing counting to 10 and beyond

Reception Maths

This half term we will focus on:
Numbers 1, 2, 3 - Comparing and composition

Counting small amounts of objects accurately using 1 to 1 correspondence

Playing with and exploring Numicon

Exploring concept of everyday time

Talking about 2D shapes

Exploring positional language

Key vocabulary: how many? More, less, bigger, smaller, tall, short, number, same, different, first, next, last, circle, triangle, square, rectangle, behind, on top, in front, next to, under.

Circle and triangle and shapes with 4 sides

Positional language

Representing numbers to 5 and one more/one less

Time - night and day, ordering key events, days of the week

Key vocabulary: same, different, more, less, bigger, smaller, equal, heavier, lighter, number, amount, quantity, circle, triangle, square, rectangle, fewer, morning, night, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

Expressive, Art and Design



This half term we will:

- **Prepare for the Christmas Play** - building confidence in singing and dancing
- **Explore Art & Design** - using accurate colours in drawings and paintings
- **Discover Music** - experimenting with instruments and sounds
- **Seasonal DT Projects** - including Christmas decorations and cards
- **Construction Activities** - creating imaginative settings like castles
- **Storytelling** - using story maps, props, puppets, and story bags to retell, invent, and adapt stories
- **Role Play** - themed around parties, celebrations, and the Nativity

Understanding the World



This half term the children will explore:

- **Family Traditions:** Talking about past Christmas experiences with their families
- **History of Christmas:** Looking at photos and discussing how Christmas was celebrated in the past
- **Cultural Stories:** Sharing different cultural versions of well-known fairy tales
- **Fiction vs. Reality:** Learning to identify fictional characters and creatures, and distinguish them from real people
- **Stranger Danger:** Using *Jack and the Beanstalk* to discuss safety, helpful strangers, and different occupations
- **Remembering historic events:**

Remembrance Day.

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Key vocabulary: family, community, mum, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandad, uncle, aunt, cousin, friend, jobs, occupation, birthdays, celebrations, time, change, different, same, Christmas, remembrance.