



Reception Newsletter Spring 2025



Welcome back to all our families after the Christmas break. We hope that you had a happy time celebrating this special season.

Thank you for all your kind messages, cards and gifts over the Christmas season – they are greatly appreciated! The children enjoyed performing their Nativity at the end of last term. They worked hard at learning the words to the songs and enjoyed having such a large audience!

We're looking forward to an exciting term of learning as the children continue to build on the good start made during the past term.

Topics: During the first half of this term, we will be focusing on animals in different parts of the world – starting with a look at The Arctic and Antarctica. As we will discuss features associated with winter, it would be good to chat about the changes that the children observe in the weather and the environment on their journey to school or whilst out and about. As part of our 'Understanding of the World' area, we will be comparing the animals that live in cold countries and those in hot countries.



Sharing stories with the children is an important part of their vocabulary development, and we will continue to do this regularly. Some of the stories we will share will include 'Stick Man' (Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler), 'Lost and found' (Oliver Jeffers), 'Handa's Surprise' (Eileen Browne) 'Elmer in the Winter' (David McKee) and a variety of 'Little Bear' books (Martin Waddell). When visiting the local library, look out for these books to read at home as a bedtime story.



Reading: It has been pleasing to see that a number of children are beginning to receive their reading certificates. Please continue to support your children in developing their reading skills. Children should be reading to an adult at home at least 5 times each week, as regular reading is required in order for them to reach the expected level in Reading by the end of the year.

R.E:

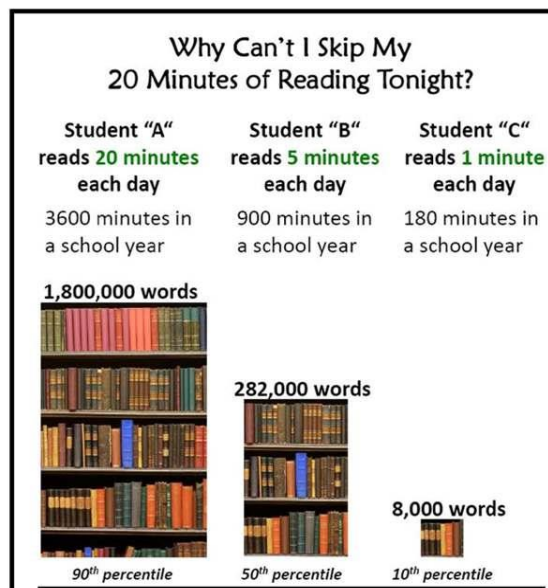
During the Spring term the children will be discussing the Epiphany and looking at the life of Jesus, preparing for Lent and the celebration of Easter.

Key dates:

Friday 24th January: Jubilee Year
Friday 7th February: Parent Coffee Morning
Monday 10th – Thursday 13th February: Parent's Evenings for KS1 and KS2 only. Not EYFS.
Friday 14th February: INSET DAY (School Closed)
Monday 17th February –Friday 21st February: Half-term Break
Wednesday 5th March: Ash Wednesday Mass (Yr 1-6) EYFS service in school.
Friday 7th March: World Book Day Dress up
Friday 14th March: Science Dress Up Day
Thursday 27th March: Reception trip to Bedford Park
Wednesday 2nd April: Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 3rd April: Easter Mass (Year 1 – Year 6)
Friday 4th April: Coffee morning (Easter Crafting)
Monday 7th – Monday 21st April: Easter break (Monday 21st is a Bank Holiday).

A prayer for the New Year: Dear Lord, As the new year begins, I look to You for our hope, joy, and peace. Give me the courage to do all that You ask of me. Show me how to walk in grace and embrace Your love for me. Amen

A final thought:



By the end of Year 6, Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school ... and in life?

(Adapted from Nagy & Herman, 1987)