

# Reception News

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring term. It's been lovely to welcome the children back after the holidays and hear all about their Christmas celebrations. Thank you also for all the lovely gifts before Christmas. They really were very appreciated.

The Spring term is generally when we see the children make the most progress. They are used to our routines now and have learned the basics, so we're ready to put all of those skills into practice. Our topic for this week is 'Winter Wonderland'. We then move on to the topic of 'Starry Night' for the rest of the half term. This explores the differences in the world at night compared to during the day. It teaches children about the importance of a good night's sleep, and helps them to discover what is happening in the world while they are sleeping, including finding out about nocturnal animals.

## **This week we are learning:**

**Phonics** – we are learning the digraphs 'ch' and 'sh' and the tricky word 'they'. Now that we are learning digraphs, we will only be learning two new sounds each week. This may mean that new games are only updated fortnightly as Bug Club group sounds into 4s.

**Maths** – this week we are focusing on weighing. We will be weighing various objects inside and outside and will be focusing on vocabulary such as heavy, heavier, light, lighter and the same as or equal to. We will be weighing Numicon to find out which number is the heaviest and which other numbers we can put together to make the same number.

**Jigsaw** – our Jigsaw focus for this term is 'Our Dreams and Goals'. This week we will be thinking about challenge. We will talk about how to tackle a challenge, how we can help each other, and how to succeed. We will also talk about how it feels when we don't succeed first time and how we can move on from that.

**Music** – we use a website called SingUp for our music lessons this term. This week our lesson is called 'I've Got a Grumpy Face.' We will focus on timbre, beat and pitch. We will be learning the song 'I've Got a Grumpy Face' and will be talking about how we show feelings and emotions in music.

**Other** – we will be reading 'The Big Freeze' by Pippa Curnick and will be thinking about all things wintery. We will be experimenting and exploring with ice, making icy art and designing and describing winter jumpers to keep us all warm.

## **Reminders**

- During this very cold snap, please remember to send warm coats, hats and gloves into school each day (all named please). Could you also please continue to practice zipping coats so we can get outside faster for playtimes.
- PE will start next Monday. If you haven't already done so, please send PE kits to school as soon as possible. Children need black shorts, a white T-shirt and black plimsoles. Tracksuits are not needed in Reception as we do not do PE outside.
- Please remember to return reading folders on Tuesday mornings so we have time to change books to be sent home on Thursdays.

w/b 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

- Could you please also remind children not to use climbing frames before or after school. These are only to be used when a member of staff is present to supervise. This is particularly important on wet and/or icy days as our climbing frames can be quite slippery.