



Rabbit Class Newsletter

Spring Term 1 2026

Dear parents/carers,

Rabbit Class Staff

Miss Garland—Class Teacher

Mrs Morris – Teaching Assistant and Speech and Language tutor

Mrs Thomson – Student Teacher

Happy New Year

We hope you had a great Christmas and we would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. Rabbits have another exciting half term ahead. Our topic, Frozen Planet, is set to inspire and engage the children's imaginations.

We have Mrs Thomson joining our class this term as a student teacher. Many of you will recognise Mrs Thomson as she worked at Barningham previously before starting her teacher training.

What is it like in the polar regions?

This half term in **Geography** we will be exploring what it is like in the polar regions. The children will learn where the polar regions are, what wildlife lives there and what the weather is like. In **Literacy** we will be reading a range of books, including: One Snowy Night, Penguin Small, The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud and The Snow Bears. In **Maths** we will be learning about the composition of numbers to 8, finding 1 more and 1 less and doubling numbers. They will compare mass, and explore and compare capacity. As **Scientists** we will be finding out about forces and learning what happens when we push or pull something. In **Music** we will learn about sound patterns. Through fairy tales, children are introduced to the concept of sound patterns (rhythms). They explore clapping along to repeated words and phrases, creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairy-tale. Our **Art** topic for this half term is called 'Colour Splash'. The children will learn about primary and secondary colours, colour mixing techniques and applying these in painting and printing. We will look at the work of Clarice Cliff and produce our own piece of art work inspired by the 'Circle Tree' plate. Our discussions in **PSHE** will focus on 'How can I look after the world around me?' In **Physical Development** we will be developing our dance skills as well as learning about games with our PE coach. This half term the children will be learning about Judaism in **RE**, they will be finding out why learning to do good deeds so important to Jewish people.

Phonics and reading

Our reception children have daily Read Write Inc phonics lessons and the children work in groups according to the stage they are at in their learning. Please use the flash cards provided to help your child to learn the sounds and build words to read. We use phrases to help the children remember how to form each letter correctly. This is really helping them to write words in our literacy lessons. Please read at home daily and record this in your child's reading record.



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Phonics for nursery

During nursery the emphasis is on children listening to and identifying different sounds that they can hear, such as environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body percussion and voice sounds. They should also be able to discriminate between sounds that they can hear. Once children are familiar with oral sounds, they may notice some patterns, such as rhythm and rhyme - at this stage, this will be as simple as listening to a nursery rhyme or song. They will begin to recognise sounds that have the same initial sound, such as 'apple' and 'ant'.

Tapestry

We use Tapestry to share observations of your child's learning in school. If you need any help to view Tapestry please come and ask.

PE

PE is on Wednesday and Friday this half term. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit. Please send children in jogging bottoms or leggings and appropriate footwear. Long hair must be tied up and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons.

Supporting your child at home

- Share stories together every day.
- Talk about what you're doing: *"I'm cutting the apple. It's red."*
- Sing nursery rhymes.
- Encourage drawing, mark making, or colouring.
- Encourage independence with getting dressed.
- Talk about feelings and emotions.
- Count toys, steps, or snacks.
- Talk about size and shape, big/small, round/square.
- Use everyday maths like sharing snacks.
- Encourage daily physical activity, such as outdoor play, dancing and riding bikes or scooters.
- Use fun activities to strengthen fingers, such as playdough, cutting with child-safe scissors and threading.

Questions

Thank you for all of the support that you provide at home, it makes such a difference. Please come and speak to us at the end of the day if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

Miss Garland