

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and are looking forward to 2026.

We are all looking forward to the amazing year that we are going to have together.



## Me and my community

Our focus stories are Supertato, Wanda and the Alien, NO-BOT the robot, Norman the slug with the silly shell, Barry the fish with fingers, Keith the cat with the silly hat

## Prime areas of learning

### Communication and Language



This half term we will focus on developing story lines in our pretend play. We will be setting up small world story scenes in our tuff trays, which will be based around the stories that we are reading to encourage retelling. We will also focus on using talk to help work out problems and organise thinking. The children will be given problems such as someone is lost, something breaks and will be encouraged to talk through their ideas.

### PSED



Our Jigsaw theme this half term is 'Dreams and Goals'. We will be looking at setting ourselves challenges and exploring perseverance. We will be exploring how we feel when we achieve goals and understanding what it means to feel proud. As well as thinking about ourselves we will also be learning how to encourage others to succeed and reach their goals.

### Physical development



We will be continuing to focus on handwriting and have been focusing on writing in line with the Little Wandle Handwriting scheme. We progress through letter families, starting with the curly letter family and will work our way through the long letter family, bouncy letter family and zig-zag family. We will be focusing on patting, throwing, kicking, passing, aiming and catching as gross motor activities.

## Specific areas of learning

### Literacy-phonics



Listed below are the phonemes and tricky words (TW) the children will be learning over the coming weeks  
 05/01 - ai, ee, igh, oa  
 12/01 - oo, oo, ar, or TW - was, you, they  
 19/01 - ur, ow, oi, ear TW - my, by, all  
 26/01 - air, er, words with double letters TW - are, sure, pure  
 02/02 - Longer words  
 09/02 - Assessment week

### Literacy-Reading






The children will continue to have books added to the Collins Hub, which are aligned to their phonic level. In the classroom there will be lots of opportunities to read simple words, captions and sentences. Anything they read in the classroom will only ever contain words with known graphemes or tricky words.

### Literacy-writing



This term will be exploring CPA (concrete, pictorial, abstract) to help build sentences. The children have pictures and words they can read, they physically move them to create sentences before sticking them down and writing. We will also be reading and writing some non fiction pieces about snails when we read Norman the slug with the silly shell.

<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Understanding the world</p> 	<p>Expressive art and design</p> 
<p>Our first maths unit is, Alive in 5 where we will be finding, subitising and representing 0-5. We will also be recapping 1 more and 1 less.</p> <p>Our second unit is mass and capacity. We will be using scales to find a balance and compare mass. We will also be comparing different containers, talking about which ones hold the most or least and exploring what we can use to measure the capacity. Our third topic is called Growing 6,7,8 as well as exploring composition and representation of these numbers we will also be exploring doubles.</p> <p>Length, height and time is our last topic.</p>	<p>We will be doing lots of exploring and investigating this term. We will be investigating magnets and the properties of materials. The children will be encouraged to identify which materials are magnetic.</p> <p>We will be exploring different types of robots, how they have evolved through the years and adding these to our time lines.</p> <p>We will also be looking at the similarities and differences of different groups of people. We will be learning that just because we are different from others doesn't mean that we can't still be friends.</p> <p>We will also be thinking about the jobs that we would like to do when we are older.</p>	<p>Our role play will become a police/superhero headquarters this term. The children will have opportunities to work together to help others. They will be encouraged to use their writing skills to take notes and record incidents.</p> <p>We will be exploring some joining and fixing methods e.g. folding, hole punching and tying.</p> <p>We will use different media to create, for example clay to make a shell for Norman the slug, boxes to create robots, material to make superhero capes and mixed media to create under the sea pictures when reading Barry the Fish with Fingers.</p>

# PE and Forest School

Every week, the children have one P.E session with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, Coach James and Coach Grace.

This term in P.E the children will be doing... Dance – To perform a dance with control, coordination and in sequence with others. The children will use very simple movement patterns but can remember their dance from week to week in order to progress it over the course of the half term.

P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E)
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Hair tied back
- ✓ Earrings out and all jewellery removed

Forest School is led by Mrs Baker.

I have made the decision this term that all classes will be going out each week. We will be learning about and observing signs of winter and learning about decay. The children will learn new Forest School games and we will be making bird feeders to help the birds over the winter months. We will also continue to have the fire out at different points in the term, making hot chocolate and damper bread. The children will learn about changes and notice and discuss these when cooking over the fire.



Forest school kit:

- ✓ Waterproof trousers / wetsuit
- ✓ Wellies/walking boots
- ✓ Legs **must** be covered due to ticks (leggings or joggers)
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Scarf
- ✓ Mittens/gloves (waterproof if possible)
- ✓ Extra socks when cold

## Coming up...



5th January - School reopens for the new year

28th January - Stay and Play

30rd January - INSET Day

10th February - Safer Internet Day

13th February - Mad Hair Day

16th February - Half term holiday

23rd February - Start of term

## Home Learning



Please continue to listen to your child read either using the Collins Hub app or by borrowing books from your local library. If you are having any difficulty with accessing Collins Hub please let us know.

We have been focusing on writing the letters c,a,d and g using the corresponding formation phrases. Your child should know these and can help you help them. Each letter starts with the 'c' shape. Please encourage your child/children to practise these at home. Again if you need any advice on how to form the letters please let us know.

## Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information on this newsletter; or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

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## How can you help?



We are always in need of extra recycled modelling objects, such as toilet roll tubes, empty boxes and pots. If you have any you can donate that would be incredibly helpful.

We are focusing on encouraging active listening skills this term. We have been doing this by telling a story and when the child hears their name in the story they have to do an action, such as clap. You can help with this at home by making up your own stories with them in, or changing a familiar story you are reading so that they are a character. For example your child could become the Gruffalo, so you would read 'a Henry, what's a Henry?, a Henry? why don't you know?' Every time 'Henry' hears his name he claps.

Please keep adding to Tapestry and signing and bringing in Reading diaries every monday.

2026 here we come!

Please come and speak to any of us if you have any questions or if you would like any additional information about any of the areas of learning.

Many thanks  
EYFS team