



St Mary's Primary School Writhlington

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. A **very** Happy New Year to you all. Welcome to Spring Term 1. We have a fun packed term to enjoy together.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 16th Jan 9-12.30 – Trip to Nunney!

Also on... Thursday 23rd Jan- 3.30-4.30 pm-1st Reading Café in Little Oaks (see attached letter)

Tuesday 21st Jan 1-2pm - Parents/Carers invited into class to make a model castle alongside children

Thursday 19th Feb 1-1.30pm- Teddy Bears Picnic-(more information to follow nearer the time)

Topic

The topic this term is **Fairytales**, as we have a whole school topic based around books.



Please note that **PE** will be on a **Friday afternoon** for the rest of this term. We are very lucky to be walking over to Writhlington gymnasium where we will have the chance to use all the equipment, including the trampolines and sprung floor. Mrs Gallimore will be taking the children and working alongside the very experienced gym coaches at Writhlington school. Please send your child to school wearing their PE kits on a Friday. Many thanks.

Phonics

In phonics this term, we are continuing to learn new Phonics Sounds and we move onto Phase 3. Attached is the link to the parent's section of our Phonics programme. Please watch the video-

Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

We have sent home a copy of all the sounds we are learning in the children's sound books. It is our aim for the children to develop a quick recall of each sound, so that they become more confident in identifying the sounds and will be able to read more words and sentences that contain the sounds that we have learnt- alongside the 'Tricky Words' that the children are practising.

Please use the sheets to continue to help your child by practising the pronunciation and formation of these sounds at home too! We are also learning many new sounds called 'digraphs' (two letters that make one sound, e.g. **ch** in chip) and 'trigraphs' (Three letters that make up one sound, e.g. **igh** in might). These can also be a challenge so please continue to practise in the sound books!

Literacy

This term, across the school is book term...

In Literacy, we are learning all about story language and sharing a range of fairytale stories. We are going to be studying different characters in stories and creating 'speech bubbles' for them. We will begin to create 'story maps' which will help us to sequence and understand how stories are structured. We will become familiar with the language in these stories- great for helping children to be able to retell the stories themselves. In February, the children will also be writing and sending an invitation home to invite their favourite teddy bear into school for the day for a special event (**we will ask you to send a reply from their teddy as a magical surprise!**).



Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me- I'm the Gingerbread

Mathematics

Our **Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRF)** for this term is: 'To be able to **partition numbers** to 5 into two groups'. There is an information sheet and activity attached to this newsletter to help with learning at home. For those pupils that have already mastered this skill, we will be developing further, by utilising these skills in a range of contexts. We will continue to consolidate the skill of **subitising** (instantly recognising amounts without counting). Little Oaks have been using **numicon** to support with this skill, and to understand which pairs of numbers total 5. We are learning about **weight** and **capacity** - linking this to planting in different sized pots – let's hope something grows! After lots of focus on numbers 0-5, we will spend the rest of the term looking at numbers 6, 7 and 8. We work 1:1 each week with your child on their learning steps and the support at home really does help, thank you for all of your efforts!

Foundation Subjects

We have another jam-packed term, full of fun stuff to help us to learn so many skills! We have a role play castle to build, weaving Red Riding Hood's basket and gingerbread men to bake!

We will also be listening to and appraising a range of music, and learning some new songs (now the Nativity ones are out of our heads!).

Reading

Please read the phonic books and reading for pleasure books with your child **as often as you can**. Keep using the sound books to practise the new sounds!

Thank you for your continued support, The Little Oaks Team.