

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Spring 1 Topic will be: 'Favourite Stories & Traditional Tales'. Whilst we will follow the children's lead within topics, we are likely to be looking at books such as The Jolly Postman, Jack and the Beanstalk, 3 Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears, and the 3 Billy Goats Gruff.

Please do continue to help your child to have excellent attendance and to arrive at school on time, having had a healthy breakfast so they are ready to learn. We will continue to use the inside and outside classroom so please make sure your child always brings a warm coat and jumper or cardigan to school. Please ensure that every single item of your child's clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name and that it does not wash off. This also includes any hats, scarfs and gloves too.



Please also make sure your child brings a named, reusable water bottle every day filled with plain water only.



Reading books will now be changed every Friday. The children will be talking home the book they would have read to the Teacher and Teaching Assistant during the week. Please remember to leave a comment in the Reading Record and make sure you read each day with your child.

Homework will continue to be given out every Friday. Please support your child to complete the activities set, along with continuing to support them with writing their name and letter and number formation.

If there is anything you have a query about or any issue you would like to raise, please do not hesitate to come and talk to me on the playground at 8.55am - before the bell rings - or arrange for a meeting through the office.

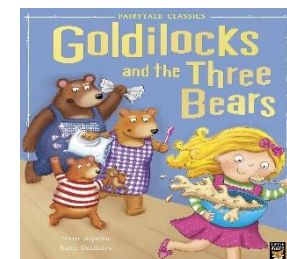
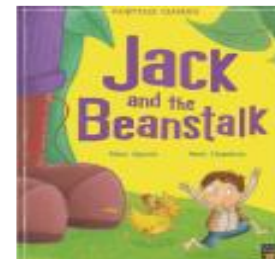
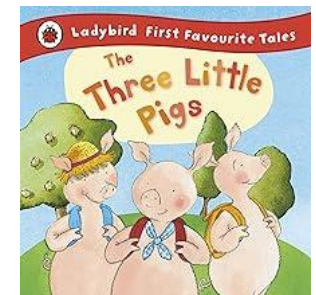
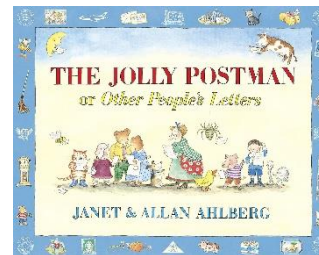
Many thanks,
Mr Biles
Ms Shana
Ms Hayley
Reception Team

Reception Newsletter

January 2025



Traditional Tales



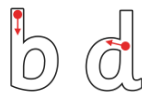
Personal, Social and Emotional Development: We will be helping your child learn to recognise and manage their emotions. At home you can support this by discussing strategies for staying calm when frustrated and explaining the importance of taking turns, waiting politely, and tidying up. In school, we'll focus on safety—both in the classroom and on the playground—and practice using equipment safely, especially during cooking tasks. We'll also emphasize the importance of staying healthy by drinking water. Through stories like Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Little Red Riding Hood, we'll explore stranger danger, while the NSPCC's Pants Rule will teach us about personal safety and boundaries

Communication and Language: We will focus on expanding vocabulary and using new words during play. We'll encourage speaking in full sentences, retelling stories, and using connectives like "and" and "because" to extend our conversations. Additionally, we'll practice using descriptive language to talk about characters and settings. To support this, please reread books with your child so they can become familiar with the language needed to discuss the illustrations and connect the story to their own experiences.

Physical Development:

Fine Motor Skills

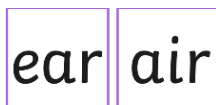
Children will engage in activities like stacking, balancing, and junk modelling, while practicing cutting with utensils and scissors to improve coordination and precision. We're also laying the foundation for good handwriting by promoting proper letter formation and neat writing.



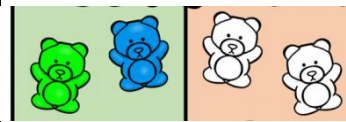
Gross Motor Skills

In PE, children will focus on balance and coordination through dance and gymnastics, practicing holding shapes, jumping, rolling, and traveling in different ways. They will explore movement with beanbags and hoops, developing coordination and spatial awareness.

Literacy: We will continue to practice writing our names, forming each letter correctly. Recognise and know the sounds (phonemes) of the graphemes (letters) that we will learn- ai, ee, igh, oa, oo (boot), oo (look), ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er. We will be learning to read and writing words with double letters and longer words. We will learn the tricky words was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure. We will be writing words and will be beginning to start writing some simple captions. Children will have lots of opportunities to write and mark make for a purpose using the context of traditional and favourite stories.



They will write lists for recipes for a gingerbread man and for making bread. They will be writing notes to the characters and will be supported in writing simple sentences about our stories.



Mathematics: We will be comparing numbers to 8, including zero, using vocabulary such as more, less, greater, smaller and fewer to compare groups of objects. We will be using objects to make numbers to

8 in different ways. We will be combining groups- using 2 and 3 groups of objects, counting how many are each group and how many there are altogether. We will be using balance scales to compare the weight of objects using the vocabulary 'heavier and lighter'. We will be exploring capacity using the vocabulary full and empty and measuring how many cups of water will fill different containers. We will be also be exploring whole and half of shapes.

Understanding the World: We will investigate different materials and structures, choosing the best materials and structures to make a house for the Three Little Pigs and a bridge for the Billy Goats Gruff. We will create story maps for our traditional tales asking the questions - What is a route? Where will the journey take us? We will use iPads to scan QR codes to listen to a range of stories. We will use beebots to follow a route around a story map. We will be baking bread, Gingerbread people and making porridge, exploring how materials are changed when they are heated and cooled. We will continue to look at the changing seasons, exploring how the weather changes throughout the term and naming the different seasons.

Expressive arts and Design: We will be using small world play, role play props, costumes and masks to role play traditional stories. We will use a range of materials to build houses for the three little pigs and build a bridge for the Billy Goats, selecting materials and balancing and joining materials. We will design and make gingerbread people- cooking. In music we will be creating musical stories, moving to music, choosing instruments and sounds to represent characters and using instruments to represent actions in stories.

R.E: At the end of this unit children will have explored the Christian beliefs that Jesus: Loves everyone; Is God's son; was God born as a human (incarnation); works miracles (including healing people); and teaches people to love others.

