

Dear Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful break. A huge thank you from all the staff for the kind and generous gifts!

It has been a wintery start to 2025, thank you to several parents for their help and support in gritting the school site over the past few days! Our Early Years children enjoyed sledging in the back garden!



It has been a bit chilly out at Forest School but having the appropriate clothing and footwear, along with being very active and having a warm fire going has kept everyone toasty!

EXCITING NEWS ALERT

In very exciting news, Miss Firth has given birth to a beautiful baby boy! He was born on Tuesday morning and both mum and baby are home and doing well! Congratulations to Miss Firth, Daniel, Amelia and River on your new addition!

Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

The children were very happy to come back to Nursery after the holidays, they enjoyed telling each other what gifts they received during circle time. We have welcomed a new friend to Pebbles this week, we have enjoyed getting to know each other and have had lots of fun in the snow! The children have enjoyed taking part in a Dough Disco this week, this is a brilliant way to strengthen the children's hand muscles and develop their fine motor control. We will be having at least one Dough Disco a week so that everyone gets to take part!

This term our topic is 'People Who Help Us', this week we have been finding out about and learning about the postman. We have been 'writing' letters and posting them in our postbox. In dance and movement, we danced to the Postman Pat theme tune, played 'I sent a letter to my friend' and moved in different ways to deliver letters such as driving a van, riding a bicycle or walking.



Ladybirds

Welcome back and we wish you all a very Happy New Year! On behalf of Miss Lever and myself we would like to say a big thank you for your very kind and generous gifts.

What a busy and cold week we have had! We certainly made the most of the snow; we all wrapped up warm and took the sledges to the garden and had lots of fun sledging down the hill!

Our topic this half term will focus on People Who Help Us. We started this week by listening to the story of the Jolly Postman and then had a special visit from Ian, our local postman. Ian kindly came in to talk to the children about his daily routine and all the houses he has to visit. We were very glad he had a van to get around in rather than a bicycle, like the Jolly Postman. We have used a S story planner to draw our own story based on the Jolly Postman and then retold using lovely story language. We have been busy in our own post office in which we have enjoyed writing letters and post cards and wrapping parcels to take to the Post Office. We have compared the weight of the different parcels and took turns to deliver the mail.



In mathematics the focus has been on zero and numbers up to 5, we have continued to work on subitising and have played memory pairs games to help with this. We have been using the 10 frame with lots of counting and recognising the numbers.

In phonics our new sounds have been ai, ee, igh and oa. We have revisited the tricky words I, the, pull, put, full.

Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been watching a video called 'Something Fishy' which is about a young girl in a laundrette who discovers an ocean of creatures in her washing machine. This week the children have been focusing on verbs to create action. We have looked at using a thesaurus to build a bank of interesting verbs for our writing before writing a short story based in the video.

In mathematics, Year 1 have finished their unit on shape. This week the children have been focusing on 2D shapes and have been challenging themselves in provision to sort shapes and make shape patterns. Year 2 have also started their unit on shape. This week the children have been working hard to draw 2D shapes accurately with a ruler. We started by working in pairs to make shapes using geoboards before drawing them on squared paper.

In science, the children have started their new unit on everyday materials. This week, the children have been learning to name and identify a range of everyday materials. The children looked at a range of materials on the tables and drew pictures of them. Our focus this week was wood, metal, plastic and fabric.

Woodland Class were also very excited on Tuesday to find out that our history focus this term will be on The Great Fire of London. The children were shown a painting of the fire and were asked to write down questions they would like to find out about the fire. We will be seeing how many questions we can tick off throughout our discover unit.



Kestrel Class

In English this week, the children have been doing some short burst writing about character and dialogue in preparation for the start of our new focus text next week. They have focused on inverted commas and expanded noun phrases, as well as working on subordinate clauses. Kestrels also wrote a character description about themselves so that Miss Barrow could learn more about them!

In mathematics, Nemos have been working on multiplication and division; focusing on multiples of 10. They have also started to multiply 2-digit by 1-digit numbers. Frogs have also been working multiplication and division and after looking at factor pairs at the start of the week, they are now multiplying and dividing in groups of 10 and 100.

In History, we have started looking at the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We have discussed how the Vikings began their invasion on Northumbria and looked at the different events in the Viking timeline. The children worked together to order the events and started to get an understanding of the different Kings that ruled all the way up to the Norman Conquest.



Osprey Class

This week I have had the pleasure of teaching Osprey Class for several lessons. We have been creating our own text map for our T4W text Perseus and Medusa and have learnt the text using our text maps. As we learnt the text, we discussed some of the vocabulary used and have used dictionaries to explore the meaning of cacophony, vindictive and manipulative.

In mathematics, the focus has been on multiplication and we have been multiplying 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers.

As part of PHSE, we thought about setting ourselves challenging but realistic goals for the new year, one had to be a learning goal and the other could be something outside of school. We will revisit these again towards the end of term to see if we are making progress towards them and what else we can do to achieve them!

Barn Owls

It has been a lovely start to the new year for Barn Owls. In English this week, we started a new story 'The Tale of Curious Cara'. Some children are keen to share the story at home. The story is a warning tale in which Cara ignores advice which then has consequences when she explores the forest!

In mathematics, we have been revising addition and subtraction to help us use efficient strategies when faced with arithmetic problems. We have compared calculations deciding whether to use the more than, less than or the equals symbol.

In other news

Change of date

Please note we have had to move the date of our EYFS & KS1 Sports' mornings. These will now be on **Friday 11th July** not Friday 4th July.

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Family Time Awards



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance

'Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am'
Philippians 4:13

Zog the Dog Awards



Diary Dates

New or amended dates will be shown in **BOLD**

Date	Occasion	Who?
January 2025		
February 2025		
3 rd	Children's Mental Health Week – more information to follow	Everyone
11 th	Safer Internet Day	Everyone
11 th	Parents' Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
12 th	Parents' Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
14 th	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
March 2025		
6 th	World Book Day – more details to follow	Everyone
April 2025		
4 th	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
22 nd	Back to school	Everyone
May 2025		
6 th – 9 th	Year 5 Adventure Week – letter will be sent 13/01/2025	Year 5 only
12 th – 15 th	Year 6 SATs Week	Year 6 only
23 rd	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
June 2025		
2 nd	INSET Day	Staff Only
3 rd	Back to school	Everyone
July 2025		
1 st	Transition Day	Everyone
3 rd	KS2 Sports Morning 9-11am – more information to follow	KS2 families
4 th – 6 th	Year 6 Adventure Weekend – information sent via email 10/01/25	Year 6 only
11 th	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9-11am – more information to follow PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE	Ladybirds & Woodland Class families
11 th	Pebbles' Sports Morning 11.30-12pm – more information to follow PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE	Pebbles families
14 th	Ibfest Week – more information to follow	Everyone
21 st	Leavers' Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 nd	Garden Celebration – 12.45pm	Everyone
23 rd	INSET Day	Staff Only

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