

Reception Newsletter – Friday 9th January 2026

Happy New Year!

Thank you so very much for the very kind messages for Christmas and generous gifts you gave to all the Reception Staff. We are very grateful and really appreciate your generosity.

Phonics – Level 2

This week we have been revising Level 2 sounds – focusing on reading 3 & 4 letter regular words and forming the letters correctly. We've talked about the correct positioning of these letters when using lines. Next week we will begin Level 3.

RE –The Christmas Story Review & Epiphany

The children have remembered such a lot about the Christmas story from before the holiday. They could retell many important events and people. Some of the extra special words and phrases that were used this week were:

- Son of God
- Messenger / sign from God
- Joyful day

With Epiphany this week, we focused on the story of the 3 Kings visiting Jesus. The children thoroughly enjoyed thinking about the 'Naughty King' but were proud that the Wise Men tried to protect Jesus. Ask your child what they can remember about the story. The full video of the Christmas Story is available on the class website: <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/video-clips-autumn-2/>

Building the Kingdom Spring Term 1

This term we are thinking about other faiths. Children are asked at home to research a faith other than the Catholic faith. They can present their findings in any way they want. There are some simple videos on CBeebies Let's Celebrate you might want to use as a starting point or you might want to talk with friends with a different faith. I look forward to seeing what the children can share with their friends: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate>

Understanding the World – God's World in Winter

This week we were lucky enough to be able to start our unit with snow which doesn't happen very often. The children enjoyed playing in the snow. Unfortunately, the snow was not good snowman building weather! If we have snow over the weekend perhaps you could make a snowman with your child and add a picture to the Padlets webpage: <https://padlet.com/aturley14/things-i-play-and-do-at-home-1l68e62whxoc7lj4>

This week we looked at the variety of different weathers you can expect in winter. There is a PowerPoint we used on the class webpage: <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/powerpoints/>

Understanding the World / PSED / General

Thank you for sending wellies in on the snowy days. We will always go outside towards the end of the day to play in the snow. It also helps keep the floors in school dry as the children change into their school shoes.

To help the children's independence, please help your child learn how to zip their coats up by themselves. This skill will also help little fingers develop greater strength which will help their writing.

The Curriculum Planner for this half term has been uploaded to the class webpage:
<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/reception-curriculum-planners/>

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 12th January – PTA Meeting
- Wednesday 14th January – “Managing Your Child’s Emotions’ Parent Workshop led by the school Nursing Team
- Tuesday 22nd January – Rags2Riches collection
- Friday 23rd January – EYFS Parent & Child Reading Together Session
- Monday 26th January – Chinese New Year week in Reception
- Thursday 29th January – ‘Managing Children’s Behaviours’ Parent Workshop led by the school Nursing Team
- Friday 6th February – PTA Valentine Disco
- Friday 13th February – Celebration Assembly at 9am
- Friday 13th February – Break up for half term holiday

Have a wonderful weekend and stay safe if the weather changes or enjoy the snow.

Mrs Turley