

Reception Newsletter – Friday 27th February 2026

Phonics – Level 3

this week we have learned **'ai'** & **'ee'**. These two digraphs are usually found in the middle of words at this stage of reading.

The Parent Support Sheets and regular words to match are on the class 'Phonics & Reading' webpage: <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/phonics-reading/>. Please stick these sounds into your child's sound book and practice daily. You might like to play the corresponding games on Phonics Play website.



<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Our Tricky Words this are **'was'** & **'you'**. Please stick these into your child's Tricky Word book. Don't forget the Tricky Word Songs on the class webpage for Spring 1 <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/video-clips-spring-1/> .

To help the children we have used these phrases (use letter names):

- Y – O – U spells YOU
- W – A – S WAS

Handwriting

Our letter focus for the week was **'l'** (**formation tip = down the lolly and lick**). Please make sure your child forms this carefully whenever writing it, especially if they have it in their names. Make sure it curls as a lowercase letter and isn't straight like the capital letter.

Maths

Our number focus this week has been counting and making sets of **6** and seeing the patterns of objects that make up the set of 6. We've also been learning to write the numeral 6 using the correct formation. Ask your child to show you how they can do this.

We've continued learning number bond facts of 6 orally so that children can say the following by heart:

- 0 and 6 makes 6
- 1 and 5 makes 6
- 2 and 4 makes 6
- 3 and 3 makes 6
- 4 and 2 makes 6
- 5 and 1 makes 6
- 6 and 0 makes 6

We've also spent time sequencing numbers 0-10 forwards and backwards. Can your child find missing numbers in the sequence? Here is a great online number game your child can play at home: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering>. The sequencing 1-10 / 10 – 1 would reinforce what we've been doing. As a challenge you might want to try the ordering games.



<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering>

Understanding the World – Exploring Space – How do we get to Space?

We started our unit 'Exploring Space' by answering the question 'How do you get to space? Our role play corner has been transformed into a space corner – complete with a space rocket. The children loved the song 'We're going on a rocket ship' & 'Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, we're going to the moon'. The children liked naming the different parts of a rocket and learned how to draw rocket ships. We learned 2 magnificent scientific words – 'gravity' and 'thrust'. Ask your child if they can explain what they mean. There are several videos for this unit on our class webpage that you can use this term:

Information CBeebies: The Let's Go Club - Facts About Space



Information - How Do We Launch Things into Space?



Song - We're Going On A Rocket Ship



Song - Zoom Zoom Zoom, We're Going to the Moon



<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/video-clips-spring-2/>

Safer Internet Day Competition

Well done to everyone who sent in competition entries. Hopefully we will have the results next week. Fingers crossed we have some good news!

RE – Lent

As we journey through Lent, we are asked as Catholics to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming by praying, fasting and giving. Please refer to Mrs Johnston's Headlines & Arbor Communications as to how we are going to pray, fast and give. Every Friday will be a Mufti day to give to a variety of charities. Thank you for your generous support today.



Our prayer focus area has changed to the colour purple – the colour to show we are waiting for Jesus. Each week in Reception we will have a different focus to help prepare ourselves. Our focus this week has been a 'loving' week - showing love to everyone. Ask your child how they can show

love at home? Dan & Emily from OneLife Music will guide us through extra prayer every day during Lent and again on our Whole School Retreat Day on **24th March**.

World Book Day

Friday 6th March is St Anne's celebration of World Book Day (**NOTE THE DATE IS DIFFERENT TO THE NATIONAL DATE**). Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character using a recycled / reused costume or wear pyjamas / lounge wear. Please do not spend money on purchasing a new costume or buy 'fast fashion' in line with our Live Simply challenge. You might source a costume from friends with older children who still have something or use recycled materials or clothes to make a simple costume. Mrs Long, Mrs D'Arcy and I are reusing costumes from the past or have borrowed something from friends. Please be aware that if your child is wearing pyjamas, they should wear shoes or trainers to school (for outside times) and bring slippers in a bag if they wish.

THERE WILL BE NO WOODLANDS SCHOOL ON WORLD BOOK DAY

Children might like to bring in a story book as their Special Friends are coming to read a story to us. **Please make sure books are named.**

For more information, please log on to: <https://www.worldbookday.com/>

Stay & Pray – Session 2

Friday 20th March is our second Stay & Pray session where you are again invited to share our daily prayer with the children at 9am. This will be followed by our Lenten Big Walk for CAFOD. You are invited to stay and join us for the sponsored walk to help get more of your steps in for the day! Please look at Mrs Johnston & the Mini Vinnie's Arbor Communication about this.

THERE WILL BE NO WOODLANDS SCHOOL ON OUR BIG WALK DAY

General

Next week we will be welcoming 2 student teachers to Reception. I will be working closely to help them develop their teaching skills and guiding them through the expectations within Reception. I hope they bring some new and exciting ideas to the class whilst also offering greater opportunities to support the children in their learning.

Dates for your Diary

- Saturday 28th February – Special Friends Family Mass at Church
- Monday 2nd March – PTA Meeting @6pm
- Tuesday 3rd March – Little Kid Town Day in school
- Friday 6th March – World Book Day. Please recycle a costume or wear PJ's to support our Live Simply focus in school ***Note the day NOT Thursday* ** NOTE NO WOODLANDS SCHOOL****
- Monday 9th March – PTA Mother's Day Shop in school open
- Monday 9th March – Science Week in school
- Friday 13th March – Parent & Child Reading Together Session at 2.30pm
- Thursday 19th March – iRock Concert @9.15am
- Friday 20th March – Stay & Pray session including our CAFOD Lenten Walk **** NOTE NO WOODLANDS SCHOOL BUT WE MIGHT NEED WELLIES – WEATHER DEPENDING****
- Tuesday 24th March – One Life Music Whole School Lenten Retreat Day in school
- Wednesday 25th March – Whole School Mass at Church at 10am (normal start to the day)
- Thursday 26th March – Celebration Assembly at 9am
- Thursday 26th March – Parent Meetings from 1pm
- Thursday 26th March – Break up for Easter at 3.15pm
- Monday 13th April – Return to School

Have a wonderful weekend – hopefully with some brighter and dryer weather!
Mrs Turley