

January 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope that you had a wonderful, relaxing holiday and are ready for a busy term. We have been so impressed with the children's progress in the Autumn term and the positive attitudes to learning they continue to display.

### **Spring Term Learning**

In **English**, we will start by looking at different types of poetry, with a focus on the book 'Oi Frog!' by Kes Gray, illustrated by Jim Field. We will discuss how different types of poems include rhyme and will learn to participate in performances of poetry. We will end this unit by creating our own nonsense rhymes. Next, we move on to reading the narrative 'Stanley's Stick' by John Hegley. To start with, we will make predictions about the story and then move on to sequencing the story when we have read it in more detail. To end this unit we will create our own mini books based on our own version of the story, including illustrations. Finally, in Spring 1 we will be reading 'Ravi's Roar' and 'Ruby's worry' two fantastic books by Tom Percival. Both books discuss feelings of worry and how to manage emotions. We will consider how to write a message of comfort for someone with a worry and then use this to create a booklet explaining what to do to make ourselves feel better if we have a worry. Finally we will write a recount of a time when we had a worry or big feeling and how we made it go away. We will also read Madlenka by Peter Sis, Martha maps it out by Leigh Hodgkinson and enjoy performing poems by Julia Donaldson.

In **maths**, we will continue to use the 'think 10' strategy in order to help with addition and then move onto subtraction. We will then focus on the days of the week and the months of the year before moving on to exploring 2D and 3D shape. Towards the end of the term, we will focus on numbers up to 20 with the part or whole unknown. The children will attempt word problems to apply the skills they have learnt.

In **science** this term, we will be continuing our learning about the Seasons and how different they are from one another. Then we will start our new topic of Plants, learning about the basic structure of a variety of common plants and growing our own plants from seeds. We will conclude this topic with a trip to Batchwood woods, to identify some common plants and trees and explore the woodland.

In **history** this term, we will be learning about Pompeii and the eruption of Vesuvius. A fresco of a wealthy young girl painted nearly 2,000 years ago will provide the stimulus for our history learning. We will find out about her life in Pompeii at the time, the Roman Empire and examine primary and secondary evidence of the events in Pompeii to learn more about the eruption and its effects.

In **geography**, we will be learning about the weather. We will be describing the weather, investigating how the weather changes throughout the seasons and how the weather is different in different regions around the world.

**RE** lessons, this term will look at both Judaism and Christianity. We will initially explore who God is to the Jews and will look at the story of Moses and the 10 commandments. Then we will focus on Christianity and will think about the Easter story and specifically how Jesus was welcomed on Palm Sunday. We will consider why Christians believed Jesus to be special or important and we think about people we admire in our own lives.

In **computing** this term, we will start by learning how to use floor robots or Beebots. The children will learn about what each directional button does and think about the language used to give directions and how precise they need to be. They will design their own program and debug it where necessary! Towards

the end of the term, we will focus on data and how it can be grouped. The children will learn how to label, describe and compare groups of objects using an online program. We will finish this topic answering questions about the groups of objects, as well as creating our own questions.

The children's **PE sessions** will continue to be taught on a Monday and Thursday morning by Mr Stevenson-Leigh. Children will need to wear their PE kit to school on these days and will remain in it all day.

In **PSHE**, we will be focusing on 'dreams and goals'. We will be setting simple goals and working out how to achieve them. We will be celebrating our achievements and considering how we feel when we face obstacles but also thinking about how we feel when we overcome them. The children will receive weekly awards in assembly related to the skills taught in these lessons.

### **Home Learning**

Home learning will continue to set weekly tasks that provide children with the opportunity to revisit learning from in class and prepare them for upcoming lessons. There will be a mix of practical and written tasks focusing on phonics and maths. These will be set on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday in order for them to be marked.

**Reading** is a vital part of home learning. Children are encouraged to read ten minutes daily with an adult at home. Books will be changed every week. Please date and sign your child's reading record every time you listen to them read. Every time your child reads, this will count towards our whole school reading initiative: Give Me Ten. Library visits will be every **Friday afternoon**, whereby your child will choose a book to enjoy at home.

**Maths magicians** will recommence and you will find a new tick sheet in the front of your children's home learning books. Every Friday, children will complete a quiz related to the key facts they have been learning. After successfully completing the quiz in the allotted time, pupils will move onto learning the next set of facts. Each successfully completed quiz will be recorded and dated in their maths record books.

Please look at our class page on the website to find out ways in which you can help your child with their phonics, reading and maths. This term will be very busy with lots of exciting learning opportunities! Please see the school's website for key dates and our class page for regular updates on what is happening in class.

Here are some important dates for Hummingbirds:

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February – NSPCC Number Day

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Parent Consultations

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Remarkable reading: Brekkie and Books

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Music concert and open classrooms

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Proposed date for Batchwood wood walk

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – End of Spring term

With kind regards,

Mrs Garcia and Mrs Arnott

