



Meltham CE Primary School
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Headteacher Mr P Gibbins

December 2024

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our Foundation Stage Spring term newsletter, where we will discuss the topics and events we have coming up this next term.

<u>Phonics</u>	<p>After working hard learning our phonemes and digraphs, we will introduce many new digraphs (2 letters 1 sound – oa, ee, ie, oo) and trigraphs (3 letters 1 sound – ear, air, igh). We will also continue to work on blending and segmenting words to read and spell.</p> <p>Weekly homework will continue to be sent on a Thursday to support their phonic and maths knowledge.</p>
<u>Reading</u>	<p>We will continue our group reading sessions in class. We will be doing 2 sessions a week and we will continue to send individual reading books home. Reading Champions will restart each half term with a target of 30 reads for next half term.</p>
<u>Literacy</u>	<p>We will be applying our phonic knowledge, practising pencil control, handwriting and letter formation, spelling of key words and sentence structure.</p>
<u>Maths</u>	<p>We will focus on understanding and applying numbers within 10, mass and capacity, length, height, time and exploring 3D shapes.</p>
<u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u>	<p>We will be making New Year resolutions, discussing feelings and emotions, saying sorry, understanding the importance of sleep and keeping healthy, circle time activities, whole school assemblies, Celebration and Shining Stars assemblies.</p>
<u>Expressive arts and design</u>	<p>We will be creating Chinese New Year crafts, cooking, exploring colour, making rhythms, painting, singing, role play, acting out Traditional Tales</p>
<u>Understanding the world</u>	<p>We will observe seasonal changes, explore ice baubles, look at Chinese New Year traditions and food tasting, understanding cultural differences, stories, outdoor play trays, outdoor exploration in free choice, assemblies and a school trip (TBC)</p>

<u>Physical Development</u>	We will continue P.E. and have access to outdoor provision, take part in dance sessions, gross and fine motor control activities
<u>Communication and Language</u>	We will have opportunities to use story language, retelling traditional tales, circle times, daily questioning and speaking in our class assembly.

This term we have lots of exciting things going on and lots to learn! Firstly, we will be enjoying the topics of Chinese New Year and Traditional Tales, and after half term we will learn about New life and On the Farm. In our Religious Education learning, our topic is 'What we see in our Wonderful World'

Reading Champions

We are continuing to take part in the 'Reading Champions' challenge along with the rest of KS1. This is to promote a love of reading and reward children for the super reading they do at home! We are really proud of the number of Reading Champions we had last term and hope to beat our number this half term! A 'read' could be any form of reading e.g. shopping list, magazine, shop signs, recipes, school reading book, library book or any book from home. We recommend that you read with your child for 5-10 minutes every night. Every time an adult from home e.g. mum, dad, grandma, grandad etc, reads with your child they must **sign and date the reading record** (12.2.22 Alex read well, he really enjoyed the story. Dad).

This term we are aiming for 30 reads, with a max of 2 reads counted per day. Our FS and KS1 Reading Champions assembly will be on the last week of the half term.

Class Assembly

Our first Foundation Stage Year Group assembly will be on **Friday 28th February at 9.15am**. Grown-ups are welcome to attend our class assembly. Please meet at the main entrance at 9am.

Spring 1 Indoor PE - FRIDAYS

This half term, PE will change to a **Friday**. It will be indoor PE in the hall, learning the fundamentals of ball skills and team games. Please dress your child in PE kit on a Friday from wb 6th January 2025 until wb 10th February 2025.

Spring 2 Outdoor PE with RICK FOX - THURSDAYS

After half term, we will have outdoor PE lessons with Rick Fox. This will be on **Thursdays**. Please dress your child in outdoor PE kit.

This will consist of a plain white t-shirt and dark black or blue hoodie, plain black or navy jogging bottoms and trainers. Please dress your child in PE kit on a Thursday from wb 24th February 2025 until wb 31st March 2025.

Name reminder

Please ensure **all** items of clothing, bags and water bottles are named, this includes jumpers, cardigans, hats, scarves, gloves, waterproofs and wellies. We always endeavour to return property to its rightful home - thank you! Please check the uniform and belongings you have at home, as we do have some missing items. Thank you.

'Just in case' bag

We send your child's 'just in case' bag home at the end of every term as they may need refreshing, they may have grown out of clothes or they may have been used. Please return it with them on **their first day back in January**. Please label everything right down to socks and underwear. As the weather worsens, the children must have a spare change of clothes in school in a labelled bag. We recommend a white t-shirt, a jumper/cardigan, socks/tights, a few pairs of underwear, trousers (plain joggers or school trousers) or skirt / dress. We have **very few** items of spare clothing at school, so these bags are extremely helpful.

Welly Day

Each year group will participate in a Welly Day once a term. Our Welly Day will be on **Wednesday 19th March**. Our whole year group will spend the day together exploring our grounds, making Spring crafts and learning lots about the change in the season. On this day, your child will need to come dressed **comfortable, old clothes** (no uniform needed) as we plan to get a little muddy. Please also bring waterproof trousers/puddlesuit, a warm, waterproof coat and of course, wellies. We will plan to be outside all day, so please ensure your child will be warm and dry.

Stay and Play

Each term we enjoy inviting our grown-ups into our classrooms to see the exciting things we get up to! There will be lots of activities for you to have a go at and anything you make, you can take home! We ask that a maximum of two adults per child attend as we have a limited amount of space. Class 1's Stay and Play will be on **Tuesday 25th March** at 2.15pm and Class 2's Stay and Play will be on **Wednesday 26th March** at 2.15pm. Please arrive at the main entrance slightly before 2.15pm to sign in.

Communications

'Headlines' is the whole school newsletter which is emailed out to parents every other Friday. Please take the time to read it as it contains information about whole school events and important dates. Please make sure you have the Spider app and check frequently to be aware of reminders and also our Curriculum newsletters each term.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 6 th January 2025	Start of Spring 1 term
Thursday 13 th February 2025	Reading Champions assembly (within school)
Monday 17 th Feb – Friday 21 st Feb	HALF TERM
Friday 28 th February 2025	Class assembly to parents 9.15am
Monday 10 th March & Wednesday 12 th March	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 19 th March 2025	Welly Day
Thursday 20 th March 2025	Sing Up assembly (TBC)
Tuesday 25 th March 2025	Class 1 Stay and Play – parents welcome
Wednesday 26 th March 2025	Class 2 Stay and Play – parents welcome
Thursday 3 rd April 2025	Awards assembly within class
Monday 7 th April – Friday 18 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 21 st April 2025	EASTER MONDAY (School closed)
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Start of Summer 1 term

There is a lot of information and a lot to remember on this newsletter so please take the time to read it carefully. Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support.

Class Teachers and Educational Teaching Assistants

Class 1 – Mrs. Wimpenny, Mrs. Spittlehouse
emma.wimpenny@kirkleeseducation.uk

Class 2 – Mrs Osborne, Mrs. Charlton
jenny.osborne@kirkleeseducation.uk

PPA Teachers – Mrs. Stier (Class 1 Fri am) and Ms. Mottram (Class 2 Friday am/pm)