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## From The Headteacher & Manager

What a wonderful first term we have had here in our new premises! It has been truly fantastic, and we are always grateful to all of our families for their continued support. This term, we have introduced our performing arts teacher, whom the children absolutely adore, as well as football coach Matt for football skills training. We have enjoyed our Children in Need bake sale, Odd Socks Day, and our first ever Christmas carol evening! We have covered so many exciting topics to extend the children's learning, and everyone has loved the new experiences gained through outings, activities, and play.



Thank you to all who joined us for our Christmas carol evening — we are truly grateful to each of you for spending your evening with us. The children enjoyed a wonderful selection of festive activities, including reindeer food making, bauble decorating, a Christmas craft table, gingerbread biscuit decorating, a gingerbread playdough tuff tray, *Dear Santa* letter writing, and finding their names on the Nice List before receiving their North Pole-posted certificates. They also loved making a wish on our special wish tree! We all shared mince pies, biscuits, and other refreshments throughout the evening, before coming together to sing our carols. What a magical evening it was. Thank you all for your lovely comments and feedback — it truly means a lot to us.

This week, we will be bringing our term to a close with lots of festive excitement. We begin with our traditional Christmas movie night, a cosy and magical event the children always look forward to. Throughout the week, we have a full schedule of Christmas fun planned, with plenty of activities to keep everyone smiling and engaged as we build up to the big day. We will finish the week on a high with our Christmas parties, where the children can celebrate together, enjoy music, games, and treats, and soak up the joyful atmosphere. It's set to be a wonderful end to a truly fantastic term!



If you are joining us for Holiday Club, we are very much looking forward to welcoming you next week and continuing the festive fun together. We have lots of lovely activities planned to keep the children engaged, happy, and enjoying the lead-up to Christmas. For those not attending, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and our warmest best wishes for a happy, healthy, and joyful 2026. We hope you all enjoy a wonderful break filled with rest, family time, and lots of festive magic.

We are already looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 6th January, when we begin our Spring term. We have an exciting term ahead, packed with new topics to explore, special events, enriching activities, and plenty of opportunities for the children to learn, grow, and shine. Thank you all once again for your continued support — we cannot wait to see what the next term brings!

Best wishes, Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Erb

## Buttercup Class

We've had a wonderful half-term in the Buttercup Room, exploring a range of exciting topics including Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Autumn, and Winter Wonderland.

One of the standout activities for the children was creating a "melted snowman" using white paint and shaving foam. They loved getting hands-on with the mixture, fully engaging their senses as they experimented and played.

It has been lovely to see the children growing in confidence each day, especially in their gross motor development. They have taken great enjoyment in building tall towers with our foam blocks, working together to carefully balance each one. They've even created their own obstacle courses, proudly balancing and walking along them with big smiles on their faces.

We are very much looking forward to exploring new and exciting topics in the New Year!



# Bluebell Class

What a fantastic half term we have had in Bluebell room! The children have taken part in some exciting topics, taking it in their stride and have really enjoyed every moment.

Our favourite was most definitely Goldilocks and the Three Bears, where we brought the story to life through role play, cooking and even had a teddy bear picnic during snack time. We transformed our classroom into a 'Winter Wonderland', ensuring we incorporated animals and snow into activities for a real winter effect!



The display boards are filled with some amazing art work for us to enjoy each day. The children are thriving in Performing Arts as well as Baby Ballet every Tuesday, which has made such a difference to their confidence and peer interaction. Each day we do crafts to support their fine motor strength and language skills, providing a wide range of resources and opportunities to support their continuous development. We are extremely proud of the progress and dedication from each child, making this first term extremely meaningful and special! We can't wait to welcome the children back in the new year to enjoy some new and exciting topics.



## Daisy Class

What a truly wonderful half term it has been for all of us who have spent time in the Daisy room! We have delved into a variety of topics, including Autumn, Winter, Goldilocks, and creating Christmas crafts! One of the favourites among the class has been the Winter Wonderland, during which we thoroughly enjoyed making snowman sandwiches, learning many fun facts about penguins, and acquiring new keywords.

We then moved on to the engaging topic of Goldilocks, where we explored a range of sensory experiences. This included engaging in puppet role play and making as well as tasting our very own porridge to really spark our imaginations!

We are filled with anticipation for what the new year will bring, with some thrilling topics planned. It has indeed been the most wonderful time of the year!



# Poppy Class

This half term has truly been filled with fun, laughter, smiles, creativity, imagination, and a variety of learning experiences! Our favourite topic was exploring Autumn, which is where we kicked off this half term. We enjoyed it so much that we extended it by another week. From crafting hedgehogs out of playdoh and loose parts to painting a pumpkin patch, and delving into the inside of a pumpkin with our hands, it was a delight. Our favourite book from this topic is "The Oak Tree" by Julia Donaldson, which you will find on our list of favourite books a few pages down!

We then had a wonderful time with "Goldilocks and the Three Bears", the classic fairytale. We loved making our own porridge for snack and bear toast as part of some delightful cooking activities! We then ventured into our Winter Wonderland topic for two weeks, exploring fake snow, ice play, creating snowflakes, building snowmen and igloos, painting, designing winter-themed activities, and making Snowman sandwiches, which were scrumptious! We are very excited to end our first term with some festive fun and dive right into Christmas crafts, before finishing with our Christmas party! It has indeed been a busy term, and we can't wait to return in January for more fun and adventures here at "The Hall". We are incredibly proud of every child and their daily progress! Their language skills are blossoming beautifully, their friendships are strengthening, and we cherish the uniqueness of each day. We enjoy discovering something new every day and eagerly anticipate sharing it with all of you!





## Forthcoming Topics

**Our Bodies**  
**My five senses! (Brand new!)**  
**Outer Space (two weeks)**  
**Help the planet (two weeks)**

## Forever Colours Hospice

We deeply appreciate your generous donations and support for 'Forever Colours Hospice', our selected charity this year. This wonderful organisation offers care to families with babies, children, and young people who face life-limiting, life-threatening conditions or profound and multiple learning disabilities. To discover more about their incredible work, please visit their website: [www.forevercolourshospice.org.uk](http://www.forevercolourshospice.org.uk). Your contributions will make a significant difference, and we are truly thankful for your kindness.



## Our Morning Snack

Some of our parents have recently asked about the morning snack that we offer through our new school menu. Following very helpful feedback, we are extending the snack offer and how we present it. In the photos you will see that snacks will be presented on a platter that includes a range of crudites, assorted fruits and vegetables (rotated weekly), yoghurts, and a fresh glass of milk. This setup encourages independence, allowing children to choose which fruits they would like and try new foods at their own pace. By changing the selection each week, children are able to explore a wide range of tastes and textures here at school. You can also see how the snack is arranged on a child's tray. Every tray is clearly labelled with the child's name to help us manage allergies and ensure staff prepare the correct selections. Milk and water are always available to all children. If you have any questions about the morning snack, please feel free to speak to any member of staff—we're always happy to help.



## Our favourite books this half term...



**Title: The Oak Tree**

**Author: Julia Donaldson**

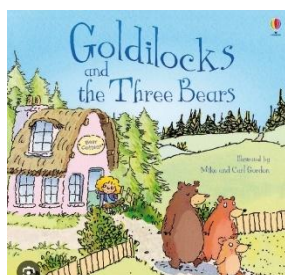
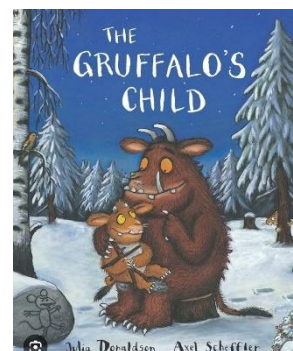
Watch a thousand years unfold in the life of one magnificent tree!

A thousand years ago, a tiny acorn fell to the ground. As the years pass, it grows . . . and GROWS into an enormous oak tree! As the centuries sweep by, children play games around the tree. Families dance about it. A fleeing king even hides inside its hollow trunk! The tree gives food and shelter to a host of animals, from squirrels and badgers to birds and beetles. After a thousand years, the ancient tree finally falls in a storm - but a new acorn sprouts, and the cycle of life begins all over again. **A favourite of Poppy Room!**

**Title: Gruffalo's Child**

**Author: Julia Donaldson**

One wild and windy night the Gruffalo's Child disobeys her father's warnings and ventures out into the snow. After all, the Big Bad Mouse doesn't really exist . . . does he? The Gruffalo's Child is the number one bestselling, much-loved sequel to the worldwide picture book phenomenon that is The Gruffalo. Julia Donaldson's trademark rhyming text and Axel Scheffler's brilliant, characterful illustrations combine once more to ensure that the Gruffalo's Child has followed firmly in her father's footsteps and that her story is one that children will ask for again, and again . . . and again! **A favourite of Poppy Room!**



**Title: Goldilocks and the Three Bears**

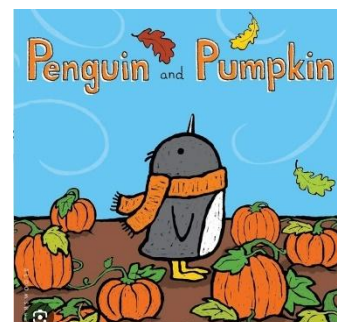
**Author: Susanna Davidson**

This is a lively picture book retelling of the popular fairy tale. Goldilocks was always told, "Don't go into the forest. It's full of big scary bears." But Goldilocks went into the forest anyway...The simple and engaging text is accompanied by the colourful illustrations of Mike and Carl Gordon, taken from the popular "First Reading" series. It is a wonderful gift to be shared again and again.

**Title: Penguin and Pumpkin**

**Author: Salina Yoon**

Penguin's curiosity about fall sends him on a journey to a faraway farm. But his younger brother Pumpkin is too little to come along! Can Penguin find a perfect way to bring the joys of the season back home so Pumpkin can join the fun? **A favourite of Daisy Room!**



**Title: The Snowman**

**Author: Raymond Briggs**

Featuring a heartfelt message and vibrantly whimsical illustrations, "Our Class is a Family" is a book destined to foster and enhance the sense of community within a class. Children will understand that their classroom is a place where they can safely be themselves, where making mistakes is acceptable, and where it is essential to show friendship to others. As students listen to their teacher read this story aloud, they are bound to feel like they belong to a special family.

**A favourite of Bluebell room!**

# Families Magazine

You can download the latest Families Magazine by clicking here...

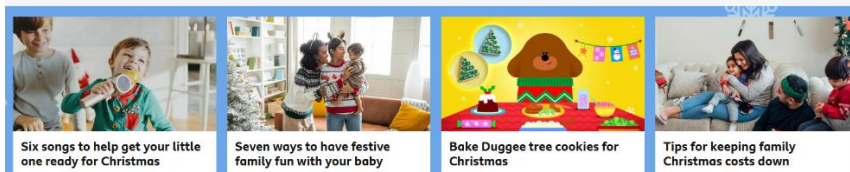


[https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families\\_north\\_west\\_london\\_nov\\_dec\\_2025\\_issue?fr=sMDdINjg4ODMONDE](https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_north_west_london_nov_dec_2025_issue?fr=sMDdINjg4ODMONDE)

## Christmas with CBeebies Parenting

Top tips and support to help parents through the holidays, from financial advice to recipes and crafts that keep the kids entertained and learning. Follow this link

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/topics/c6206jn0yddt>



Six songs to help get your little one ready for Christmas

Seven ways to have festive family fun with your baby

Bake Duggee tree cookies for Christmas

Tips for keeping family Christmas costs down

## Tax-Free Childcare: Support for Families

Did you know that working families can get help with the cost of childcare through the **Tax-Free Childcare scheme**? Here's how it works:

- For every **£8** you pay into your childcare account, the government adds **£2** (up to a maximum of **£2,000 per child per year**, or **£4,000** for a child with a disability).
- The money in the account can be used to pay your nursery fees.
- The scheme is available to most working parents of children under 12. To check if you're eligible or to open an account, visit the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

## Start of the Day

Just a reminder that our school day begins at 8:45am. The children ease into the morning with free play, and our planned activities start promptly at 9:15am. If your child arrives after this time, they may miss the morning welcome song, circle time, and some of our early learning activities. After 9:15am it may also take us a little longer to answer the door, as staff are busy supporting the children in the classroom. We know Nursery attendance isn't compulsory, and of course there is no penalty for arriving late. We simply want to make sure you're getting the most out of the time you're paying for, and that your child has the chance to enjoy all the lovely activities we have planned each morning.

## No Nuts

Our school is a nut-free environment. Please ensure your child does not bring any food containing nuts to school. This includes items such as peanut butter and pesto, as pesto often contains pine nuts. We also kindly ask that you avoid sending foods with sesame seeds. While sesame is technically a seed, its proteins can sometimes trigger severe allergic reactions in individuals with nut allergies. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all our pupils safe.



## Parking

Thank you for parking in the student car park and walking up the access road to us. If the student car park is full, you may park in the main car park, but please park considerately so we do not antagonise our landlords, the Theology School. A reminder that only staff cars and deliveries are allowed to drive down the access road. Thank you.

# Supporting Your Child's Language Development

Helping your child develop strong language skills is one of the most valuable ways you can support their learning, confidence and future success. Children learn language best through everyday interactions, and there are lots of simple things you can do at home to encourage their communication.



## 1. Talk—about anything and everything!

Children learn new words by hearing them used in real situations.

Whether you're cooking, walking to school or tidying up, try to talk about what you're doing. Describe objects, name actions and comment on what your child is showing interest in. These small moments build a rich vocabulary.

## 2. Read together every day

Sharing books is one of the most powerful ways to support language development. Look at the pictures together, talk about what might happen next and encourage your child to join in with repeated phrases. Even five minutes each day can make a big difference.

## 3. Encourage conversation

Give your child time to respond when you ask a question, and show that you value their ideas by listening carefully. Open-ended questions such as "What do you think will happen?" or "How did that make you feel?" help children develop more detailed sentences and expressive language.

## 4. Sing songs and rhymes

Nursery rhymes, action songs and simple chants help children hear the rhythms and patterns of language. They also support memory and listening skills—and they're fun to do together!

## 5. Limit background noise

Turning off the TV or radio during playtime and mealtimes helps your child focus on conversation. Children learn best when they can clearly hear speech and see your facial expressions.

## 6. Expand their language gently

If your child says "car go," you might respond, "Yes, the red car is going fast!" This shows them how to build longer sentences without correcting or discouraging them.

Every child develops at their own pace, and small, consistent interactions make a huge difference over time. If you ever have concerns about your child's speech or language development, please feel free to speak to us—we are always here to help.

A great website with lots of ideas to get your little one talking is Raising Little Talkers. It can be accessed via this link.

[Raising Little Talkers - Let's Get Your Little One Talking Together!](#)



## Spread the Word!

Now that we are happily settled into our wonderful new building, we are delighted to be able to welcome more children into our school community. After Christmas, we will be launching a new marketing campaign, and you may notice one of our bright yellow flyers arriving through your letterbox.

As valued members of our school family, we would be incredibly grateful for your support in helping us spread the word. Personal recommendations from our parents are always the most powerful and trusted way for new families to discover us. To say thank you, we are pleased to offer a special incentive:

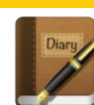
- If you introduce a friend to the school, they will receive **£50 off their first term's fees**, and
- You will receive a **£50 credit** on your next term's fees.

Please just ensure that your friend mentions your name when they book their tour and asks for the introductory offer.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Working together, we can grow our community and offer even more children the chance to thrive in our wonderful new.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR THE NEXT HALF TERM



### January

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>		First day back for Spring term.
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>		Alice in Wonderland themed breakfast party!

### February

Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9am-10am	Tea & coffee Morning- Parent's only!
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### March

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	5pm-7pm	Parent's Evening. Parent's only.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>		World Book Day- Children can dress up as their favourite book characters. Winnie The Pooh party for the children.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9am-10am	Mother's Day stay and play.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Wear something green for St Patrick's Day.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>		Red Nose Day! Wear something red.
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am-3:15pm	School trip.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12pm	Easter egg hunt and party for the children.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm	School closes for all children!

### April

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>		First day back of summer term.
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## TERM DATES

### SPRING TERM

*Staff Development Day – 5th January*

Tuesday 6th January – Friday 27th March at 12:00

Half Term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February (Holiday club available)

Easter Holiday Club – Monday 30th March – Friday 17th April

### SUMMER TERM

*Staff Development Days: Monday 20th April*

Tuesday 21st April – Friday 10th July at 12:00

Half Term: Tuesday 26th May – Friday 29th May (Holiday club available)

*Bank Holidays – Monday 4th May & Monday 25th May – School will be closed*