



# Ludlow Primary School

## Reception Newsletter Spring Term 1

### January 2026



## Happy New Year!

We hope that all had a peaceful Christmas break, and we wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year!

*Please remember, that it is important that you know that you can talk to us about your child's education. If you need to discuss a matter – or just want reassurance of how your child is doing – please do not hesitate to speak to us at home time or make an appointment to see us, either through Class Dojo or through the school office. We would also like to know of any issues which might affect your child at school; again, this helps us to gain an understanding of how we can support them.*

## Routines:

Routines will remain the same as during the Autumn Term. Gates open at 8.40am and all children should be in school by 8.50am. Gates will close at 8.50am. If you are arriving after this time, please take your child to the main entrance.

Home time will remain 3pm.

## What are we learning?

**Our overriding theme is:** "We Are Explorers!" – exploring space and space travel

**Significant person:** Mae Jemison and Neil Armstrong

**Special celebrations:** New Year (January) and Chinese New Year (February)

**Key Talk for Writing Text:** How to Catch a Star.

**Non-Fiction Texts** - Facts about space (Fact Files).

Please see below for our half-termly overview:

**Literacy**

**Read Write Inc. Phonics**

**Phonics (RWI)** - Read Red Storybooks. Read Red Words: put, the, no, of, my, for, he

**Reading** - Children read books in line with their phonics knowledge. Daily 15-minute class story time and discussion. Sharing books selected by children to take home 3 times a week to develop a love for reading.

**Writing** - Write sounds they hear in the words they want to use. To have some understanding of finger spaces. Write for a variety of purposes such as recipes and instructions.

**Mathematics** (White Rose and NCETM)

**White Rose Maths**

- Subitising skills beyond 5.
- Exploring structure of numbers.
- Equal and unequal groups.
- Doubles.
- Sorting odd and even numbers.
- Continue to develop understanding of cardinality and ordinality through the staircase pattern.
- Ordering numbers.
- Counting to 20 and beyond.
- 3D shapes.
- Spatial Awareness.
- Patterns.
- Consolidation.

**NCETM** NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING IN MATHEMATICS

**Understanding the World**

- Winter
- Earth
- Space
- Mae Jemison and Neil Armstrong – space travel
- Shadows and light
- Reflections

**Communication and Language**

**Listening and Attention**

- To know a range of healthy food and exercise.
- Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences.

**Reception**

**Spring term 1 Overview**

**Our Topic this term is:** "We are Explorers"

**Physical Education**

**real PE Foundation**

- Copy and create shapes with my body.
- Develop balancing and taking weight on different body parts.
- Develop jumping safely.
- Develop running and racing.
- Copy and create a short sequence by linking actions together.

**Fine motor** - Hold a pencil comfortably with a tripod grip. Use my core strength to sit comfortably and with good posture on the floor or a chair. Cut along a line with scissors. Build models with small construction toys with greater control. Do my own zip up.

**Personal, Social and emotional Development**

**Jigsaw PSHE: Dreams and Goals!**

- I understand that if I believe I can tackle challenges.
- I can tell you about a time I didn't give up until I achieved my goal.
- I can set a goal and work towards it.
- I can use kind words to encourage people.
- I understand the link between what I learn now and what I might like to do when I'm older.
- I can say how I feel when I achieve a goal and know what it means to feel proud.

**How can you help at home?**

Share books and stories regularly and ask your child questions about what you have read. Help your child learn their sounds and tricky words when these are sent home. Practise writing their name, showing them the correct letter formation. Help your child learn to count, recognise and order numbers to ten and beyond.

**Expressive Arts and Design**

**Focus Artist:** Van Gogh (night sky paintings)

**In the Kitchen** – Chinese New Year Stir Fry

**Modelling** – Junk Modelling Rockets

**Joining focus** – Brace.

**Music Express** – Fabulous Food/Our Senses

**Curriculum Enhancement** – Cooking

## Reading:

Please ensure that you read with your child a minimum of 3 times per week and record on Boom Reader. Don't forget that children who read more often or show an outstanding attitude to reading could be in with a chance of receiving the 'reader of the week' certificate in our Friday celebration assembly. Children were assessed in their phonics at the end of the Autumn Term and will start their new phonics groups. They will be bringing home phonics books/sheets to support their phonic knowledge and learning. Please prioritise reading these before their books to share.

## Outdoors:

We continue to use the outdoor areas in all weathers. Please ensure that your child comes to school daily with a warm, waterproof coat and hat, scarf and gloves if very cold. We do have some wellies in school but if you would like to send a named pair of wellies into school for your child please do so.

## Water Bottles:

We are encouraging the children to be healthy. Please only send in water for your child to drink. No juice or squash. We regularly refill the water bottles during the day as and when needed.

## PE:

**Wrens** will be a Thursday morning

**Robins** will be a Friday morning.

Please don't forget to return PE kits to school and ensure children have the correct kit. Now is a good point in the year to check PE pumps/trainers still fit your child.

**Many thanks for your continued support.**

**The Early Years Team**