



Ruby Class Newsletter  
**Thorpe Church of England Primary School**  
*Faith, Love and Excellence*  
**Spring Term January 2025**



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and wish you all a very happy 2025! Thank you ever so much for all the lovely cards and gifts that you kindly gave to us. We really appreciate your kindness and generosity. We are looking forward to another exciting half term with lots of wonderful learning.

**Key dates:**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January: Mastering Number Maths Workshop for parents in the school hall at 2.40pm. Children to join.**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February: NSPCC Number Day - Children to wear something with a number on**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Break up for half-term at 3.15pm**

**READING** - As always, your support with reading is crucial as reading helps with everything such as developing children's imagination, spelling, punctuation, grammar and maths problem solving!

- **Listen to your child read every night** (even just for 5 minutes)
- **Read to your child** to model good reading and to also develop their listening and comprehension skills. You could take it in turns when reading a book - you read one page, they read one page. Or you may have another book you read together which is also fantastic. They can learn so much from you.
- **ALWAYS talk to them about what they have read** to develop their **comprehension skills**. Get your children to summarise what they have read about. Ask them a variety of questions about what they have read using the **reading prompt questions** in the back of the books. You could also choose a word, discuss its meaning and then think of some synonyms and antonyms for the word to develop vocabulary. Afterwards, look the chosen word up together using a dictionary/thesaurus. Please **RECORD** examples of questions and responses or vocabulary discussed in their home-school link book and bring these to school every day.
- **Continue to support your child with their spellings and phonics** using their red phonics books and 'I can blend' sheets. These are crucial for decoding and reading longer and unfamiliar words.

**PHONICS**

Children will continue to take part in daily phonics lessons.

**Monday:** Children need to hand in their red phonics books on this day and they will be returned with a new set of phonics words on a **Tuesday**. These words will be associated with the class phonics sounds we are focusing on that particular week. Read them with your child and think of others. It would also be really beneficial to get your child to write some of these words within a sentence. They can do this in their phonics books or on paper/in a notebook at home.

**Tuesday:** Children may bring home an 'I can blend' sheet. They need to practise reading the words on the sheet, segmenting and blending the sounds. Again, you could encourage your child to write some of these words or a sentence containing these words - can they use the sound when spelling words? These words will be linked to the phonics we are learning in class that particular week, previous sounds we have learnt

or future sounds we will be covering. Once all the 'I can blend' sheets have been given, children can go back over and revise ones brought home previously.

## MATHS HOME LEARNING

Dig1t games will continue to be given to children every **two** weeks. These will then be temporarily replaced with Mastering Number activities that follow January's meeting. Please also continue to work through the games on Maths Shed. They will be based on Money and Multiplication and Division and relate to what we are learning in class. Please see Mrs Graham for a log in if you need one.

### Our topic this half term is 'Once Upon A Time'

**English** - We will begin by finding out, reading and writing instructions on 'How to trap a Dragon' and then using this to help us write instructions for 'How to trap the Big Bad Wolf!' After this, we will be looking at and completing work based on the traditional fairy tale 'Cinderella' and comparing it to the story 'Prince Cinders'. We will finally write our own fairy tale story in the style of these stories.

**Maths-** Measurement: Money We will be learning to recognise and count coins and notes, making an amount and giving change.

Multiplication and Division. Secondly, we will work on making and counting equal groups, exploring arrays and identifying and using the multiplication symbol.

**Science** - Why are different materials useful? We will be exploring a range of different materials and their suitability (absorption, waterproofing, melting and moulding)

**RE** - Islam: What is important for Muslim families? We will explore what is important for most Muslim families by identifying key beliefs about Muhammad (PBUH 'Peace Be Upon Him') and the Qur'an. We will explore and discuss how these key beliefs shape the lives of many Muslim families.

**Geography** - What are the seven continents and five oceans of the world? We will explore the names and locations of the seven continents and five oceans of the world and discuss some of their features.

**Music** - Recorders We will be exploring different sections of an orchestra. We will explore and learn the musical terms: **beat**, **rhythm**, **pitch** and **tempo**. We will focus on learning to play some different notes on the recorders and learn to play different beats and rhythms using these notes.

**Art** - We will complete 3D work, collage and drawing linked to our Science work on materials.

**PE** - Dynamic balance and static balance and gym work exploring travel and flight. We will learn, develop and apply skills of movement, flight and rotation on the floor and apparatus through focused activities.

Please look out for the **Homework Topic Grid** that will be sent home with activities the children can complete at home and bring in to share. These will be linked to our learning in class.

## Reminders

Please can the children bring in the following **named** items every day:

- Warm, waterproof coat
- A bottle of water
- A healthy snack
- Their reading book and homeschool link book

**Red Phonics Books** - Bring in on **Mondays**

**Library and Reading books** -The children will have the opportunity to change their library and reading books every **Friday**. Please ensure that books come into school, otherwise we are unable to change them.

Our PE lessons will continue to be on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** this half term. Please ensure that your child wears their **correct school uniform** PE Kit in school: Yellow T-shirts, Royal Blue or Navy Tracksuit Trousers (no logos), Navy shorts, Trainers or Black Plimsoll shoes). Please ensure long hair is tied back and no earrings are worn on PE days.

### A polite reminder

Please ensure that your child comes into school in the correct uniform every day. Mrs Southgate may occasionally make amendments due to the weather, but otherwise it is the same. Long hair must be tied back and earrings must be gold or silver studs. Children do not need to bring in any extra equipment as we have what we need in school. Please also ensure they have a healthy snack to eat at playtime and a bottle of water all labelled with their name. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

As always, thank you so much for your support and please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you.

Mrs George and Mrs Graham