

EYFS Reception Newsletter

Spring 1st half term 2026

We hope that you all enjoyed the EYFS Nativity; we thought that the children did a fantastic job acting, singing and dancing on the stage and were very proud of them all. We were very busy during our From Autumn Glow to Winter Snow topic, including enjoying Bonfire poems, exploring the seasonal changes in Autumn and Winter, investigating the Arctic and Antarctic, and learning about Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas celebrations. We also experimented with ice, created paper snowflakes, made clay models, found out about toys from the past, and much, much more!

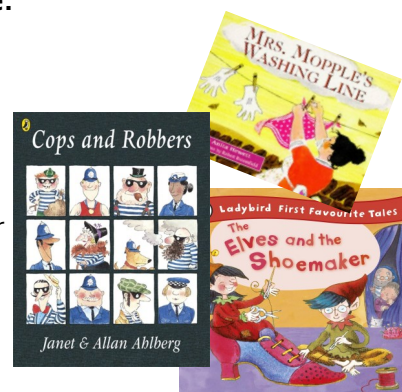
Our topic this half term is 'Dress To Impress'

Our key Learning Questions are:

- What are you wearing?
- Why do we wear certain clothes?
- What might I wear when I grow up?
- How do people help us?
- How have clothes changed?
- Why are some clothes special?

Some of our core texts will be:

- Mrs Mopple's Washing Line
- Humpty Dumpty
- Cops and Robbers
- The Elves and the Shoemaker
- Bagpuss
- Mr Benn



Pick 'n' mix of things you can do at home to enhance your child's learning around this topic:

- Matching/sorting pairs of socks and gloves, and pegging out washing (maybe counting them in twos and fives!)
- Exploring different fabrics and materials including the textures and properties (stretchy, waterproof, soft, silky).
- Writing/reading signs, labels, lists and price tags for a pretend shoe or clothes shop at home!
- Thinking about why clothes are worn for different occasions (swimming, school, winter, holidays, PE, weddings, baptisms) and different work uniforms.
- Researching clothes worn by people from different cultures and religions, on the internet and in non-fiction books.

You can upload photos/videos of any of these activities on Tapestry along with your child's comments.

Meet the Reception team:

Dublin teacher: Miss Rimell

Oslo teacher: Mr Gill

Dublin TA: Mrs Williams

Oslo TA: Miss Frankish



Some Reception Dates for your Diary (Spring Term 1):

5th January: Back to school

19th January: Parent work uniforms to come in

5th February: Snuggle with a book

9th February: Bring in cultural / religious / special clothing

13th February: Last day of term

Useful Information

Workplace uniforms: If you have a job which requires you to wear a uniform, such as a nurse, chef, vet, police or fire officer, then please contact Miss Rimell as she is planning a PSHE lesson about different occupations, which links to our topic on clothes. We would love it if you could send in your uniform, and/or a video of you wearing and talking about your uniform to explain why it is important for your job. This is during the week commencing 19th January.

Special Clothes: In the week beginning 9th February we will be finding out about the different clothes worn by people around the world. If your family or friends have any special cultural or religious clothes that you would be willing to send into school for the children to look at, we would be extremely grateful. Alternatively, you could email photos or videos of your family wearing the clothes to us to share with the class instead.

Phonics: We will be moving onto the next phase in phonics in January. This will mean that we learn more digraphs and new tricky words. We will update Tapestry each week with the new sounds we are learning as well as sending the next phonics tiles and tricky words as we learn them. We regularly check that the children are on the right book level for them. Practising recognising phonemes, segmenting (sounding out words for spelling) and blending (pushing the sounds together to read the word) with the phonics tiles will support their progress in reading .

Maths: This half term we are focusing on counting, subitising, comparing, problem solving, and exploring the composition of numbers 6, 7 and 8, as well as investigating weight and capacity and finding out about zero! Here is a link for parents <https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths>

Things to remember

Each day your child needs to bring to school:

- Named bottle filled with water.
- Book bag (please keep emptying these regularly to help keep our books in their best condition)

In EYFS we use the outdoors in all weathers so your child needs a warm waterproof coat everyday.

Please hear your child read at home **at least 3 times a week** and write in their reading record when you have read.

No jewellery except for stud earrings.

PE: We do PE on Friday. Your child should **keep their PE kit at home** and come to school **wearing their PE kit and trainers each Friday**. In colder weather, they should wear navy blue jogging bottoms/leggings instead of shorts.

Labelling: Just a reminder to please make sure that **ALL** of your child's clothing and possessions are clearly labelled with their name (including uniform, coats, water bottles, hats, book bags, shoes etc.)