



# Reception: Spring 1 2026

## 'Winter Wonderland'



### Key Learning This Half Term

Religious Education Who and what are special and why?	Specific Areas	
	Literacy/CL	Maths Number
<p>What makes me special? I can say who is special to me and why. I can talk about what makes a home and why some objects are important. How do we remind ourselves of God when we are at home? We will make a special object to remind us of something special.</p>	<p>We will be listening to and identifying initial, medial and final sounds in words We will be practising reading and will be working on segmenting (knowing sounds that make up a word) and blending words (putting a word back together). This will help us to make simple words. We will continue to work on our transcription skills, writing letters as we work through the letter families. We will be participating in lots of activities linked to our focus texts, including ordering, acting out the story, retelling, discussing settings and characters. We will be learning about fiction/non-fiction and as well as learning facts about polar region animals that we will tell our friends.</p>	<p>Our focus will be looking at numbers up to 8. We will look at these numbers in detail, thinking about the bonds that make the numbers, what they look like using different representations and what we can see when we make the numbers. We will also investigate mass and capacity using our sand and water areas in our classrooms. We will continue to talk about days of the week, months of the year, past, present and future.</p>
Books we will be reading	Author of the Month	Celebrations
<p>Lost and Found Books The Emperor's Egg Chinese New Year stories Non-fiction books (fact books) CVC/ CVCC word reading</p> 	<p><b>Oliver Jeffers</b> We will be learning about what an author and an illustrator does and learning a little about some famous and familiar authors.</p>	<p>We will celebrate New Year, Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year.</p> 

Personal, Social, Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development
<p><b>Teamwork</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will be learning what it is to be part of a team.</li> <li>- We will talk about what a team is and why it is important to work together.</li> <li>- We will talk about different strengths/weaknesses and how we can use them in different situations.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Speaking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will be learning a range of new vocabulary throughout the topic. We will have lots of opportunities to use these words in group discussions, sharing our thoughts and ideas.</li> <li>- We will continue to work on our conversation skills, listening to each other and responding appropriately.</li> <li>- We will focus on listening to stories, recalling main events and keeping to the main theme when talking and discussing.</li> <li>- 'I am a Special Person' board. Children will take it in turns to take home the class board to decorate and return to share with the class the things that are special to them.</li> <li>- Circle time activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will continue to develop our fine motor skills and pencil control, letter formation.</li> <li>- We will be using scissors – working on correct hold and action.</li> <li>- We will be participating in lots of fine motor and funky finger activities.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Key Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Celebration:</b> joyful and special event</p> <p><b>Special:</b> something or someone that is unique or more important</p> <p><b>Arctic</b> - the most northern point of the earth</p> <p><b>Antarctic</b> – the most southern point of the earth</p> <p><b>Temperature</b> - how hot or cold something is</p> <p><b>Thermometer</b>- an instrument to measure temperature</p> <p><b>Frozen</b> - when liquids become solids in cold temperatures</p> <p><b>Melting</b> – becoming <u>liquefied</u> by heat</p> <p><b>Liquid</b> - liquids <u>take the shape of their container</u>, such as a bucket, jug or coffee pot. Liquids include things like water, juice and soda</p> <p><b>Winter</b> – one of four seasons</p> 	<p><b>Sticky Knowledge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Map work</b>- using simple maps and recording and creating our own maps. We will be finding the pole regions on a 3D globe and Google maps.</li> <li>• We will talk about <b>changes and differences in weather and places</b>. We will think about the needs of animals and people in the Arctic and Antarctic.</li> <li>• We will talk about <b>primary colours</b> as the 3 most important colours. We will then focus on blue. We will use a range of media including pencil crayons, pastels, chalk and paint. We will use blue in a range of ways to create a variety of pictures.</li> <li>• We will learn about <b>religions and world views</b>- we will learn about and celebrate Chinese New Year.</li> <li>• We will learn about <b>different places, cultures and beliefs</b>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sounds to learn</b></p> <p>The children are now in targeted phonics groups and will continue to bring home their Speed Sounds book, Ditty sheets or books. They will also learn new sounds. Please keep practising these at home to help your child become confident and fluent in their reading skills.</p> <p>Tricky/Red words – Your child will be given some red/tricky words to learn throughout this half term.</p> 