



Hatch Warren Infant School

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27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now half way through the school year! Where has the time gone? We are heading quickly towards spring but the wet weather still seems to want to hang around. Please make sure that your child is prepared for all weathers by providing them with a named coat that has a hood, a hat, a pair of gloves and a pair of wellington boots. In really wet weather children who do not have wellington boots will not be allowed to access the outside area so please make sure your child has every day.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big **THANK YOU** for all the help you are giving your children at home in regards to their reading and talk books. Home support really does have a large impact on their learning and attainment throughout school. We have more exciting home challenges coming your way this half term and we can't wait to see them in school.

Reading

Well done to all those children listed below who read at home **18** or more times during last half-term (an average of 3 times a week).



Ladybird Class	Bumblebee Class	Butterfly Class
Sophie	Sa'ad	Cooper
Cameron	Alfie	Malika
Bluebell	Charlotte	Oscar
Olivia	Ela	Patricia
Amedea	Mikael	Rania
Delilah	Jordan	Swecha
Noah	Jenson	
Zahraa	Oscar	
Lando	Zack	
Jessica	Carina	
Jovino		
Effie		
Madison		
Jonah		
Jesse		
Lucie		
Calum		

The winners of last half-terms books for the children who read the most were Zahraa from Ladybird Class, Alfie from Bumblebee Class and Rania from Butterfly Class. Please try and read with your children at least 3 times a week and remember that you only need to initial and date in their reading record book when you have read if you don't have time to write a comment.

Our target for this half-term is to read at home 18 times or more.

Big congratulations to all those parents who hear their children read every day it really does make a huge difference to their progress in reading.

Topics for the term

We are covering a few topics this half term. The topic for this half term is *ONCE UPON A TIME...* where we will be reading our favourite traditional tales. In school we will be focusing on 'Goldilocks and the three bears', 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Rapunzel. It would be beneficial if you read these stories at home and help the children to really know the story as well as reading any other traditional tales you and your children would like to share. We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The classes will be choosing which book they would like to focus on and then they will come together to share their creations.

Supporting Mathematics at home!

This half term we will be continuing to look at counting forwards and backwards, recognising numbers, carefully counting objects and ordering numbers to 20 and beyond so this is a good place to start when working with your child at home in Maths. Last half term, we looked at our number bonds to 5. This half term we will be looking at our number bonds to 10. We will also be working on learning our 2D and 3D shape names and properties. In order to help your child at home with these areas, here are some suggested vocabularies, activities and websites to help you.

Addition:

Key vocabulary-add, more, and, make, sum, total, altogether, score, how many more to make...?, how many more is... than...?, count, count (up) to, count on (from, to),

Activities-Look at the addition activities on the previous newsletters and continue to do these activities and use the vocabulary. Don't forget, children can use different strategies to help them work out addition sums, for example, using objects or a number track or number line. We will also be looking at counting on, by putting the larger number in our head and then counting on using our fingers to help us, and recording using marks on paper or pictorially.

Website- <http://uk.ixl.com/math/year-1> (See Adding section)

Subtraction:

Key vocabulary-take (away), leave, how many are left/left over?, how many have gone?, one less, two less... ten less..., how many fewer is... than...? difference between, is the same as, count back (from, to)

Activities-Look at the subtraction activities on the previous newsletters and continue to do these activities and use the vocabulary. Don't forget, children can use different strategies to help them work out subtraction sums, for example, using objects or a number track or number line. As with addition, we will also be looking at counting back and recording using marks or pictures.

Website- <http://www.ictgames.com/targettakeaway.html>
<http://uk.ixl.com/math/year-1> (See Subtraction section)

2D and 3D shape/Spatial reasoning:

Key vocabulary:

2D shapes-circle, triangle, square, rectangle, oblong, pentagon, octagon, sides, corners.

3D shapes-edges, vertices, faces, cube, cuboid, sphere, cylinder, square based pyramid, triangular based pyramid.

Position- 'in', 'on', 'under'

Direction- 'up', 'down', 'across'.

Activities-<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/classroom-resources/ey-shape-and-space/>

Website-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjv39j6/articles/zgqpk2p>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjv39j6/articles/ztpwdmn>

Number bonds to 5 and Number bonds to 10

[I Know My Number Bonds 5 | Number Bonds to 5 | Addition Song for Kids | Jack Hartmann \(youtube.com\)](#)

[I Know My Number Bonds 10 | Number Bonds to 10 | Addition Song for Kids | Jack Hartmann \(youtube.com\)](#)

Key vocabulary; add, plus, equals, together, makes, pairs

We hope these ideas will help you and your child with ideas for Maths at home. Remember to make it fun not a chore!

R.E

In Year R this half term our RE topic is Eggs as a Sign of New Life. The children will be discussing the concept of new life. They will start by discussing what they know about eggs and whether we all think the same about eggs. They will then look at how eggs are important during the Christian festival of Easter and why Christians use them as a sign of new life. They will also begin to explore a simple version of the Easter story. As with all the RE we undertake in school the main aim to develop children's understanding of what faith and belief is and encourage them to be respectful of others who may have different thoughts and belief. The aim of this particular topic is to further develop children's understanding of the concept of new life and Christianity and its important festivals as well as their respect for others different thoughts and ideas.

Home Challenges

This half term the challenge is to create a short video either retelling a favourite story or nursery rhyme. You can wear a costume, make puppets and props or show pictures to help retell. We ask that you do not focus on the traditional tales we are working on in school. Please send your creations into our new year R homework email which is:

YR-Homework@hwis.hants.sch.uk

by **Monday 16th March**. **Please do not send these to parent mail as we are trying to keep the mail box free for other important emails.**

Happy creating and we look forward to seeing them.

Design your own map. You can be as creative as you like with this. It could a map of your walk to school or visit to your favourite place. We can't wait to see what you come up with. When completing this challenge with your child use directional and positional language-forward, backwards, left, right, around, behind, in front, next to, opposite etc. Please bring your map into school by **Monday 23rd March**.
Have fun!

Useful Information

1. **PE**. Year R have PE on **Thursdays**. Please ensure that your child is coming into school in their PE kits. We will be in the hall for PE this half term so please ensure that your child has shorts underneath trousers. On Thursdays please remember to take out or, if newly pierced, tape earrings and tie back long hair.
2. **FAB FUNKY FRIDAY**. Every Friday the children need to come to school dressed in old warm clothes as they spend the majority of the day outside. No skirts or dresses to be worn as they are dangerous around the fire.
3. **WATER BOTTLES**. Please remember that your child needs to have a water bottle in school daily and it should only contain PLAIN WATER. Make sure that their name is clear on their bottle.
4. **SNACK**. All children are provided with a free snack of fruit or vegetables every day. If your child wishes to bring their own please make sure it is in a small, named container. If you do provide your child with a snack from home then please ensure it only contains **fruit or vegetables**.
5. **NAMING ITEMS**. Please ensure that you have all your child's possessions named including lunchboxes, water bottles, PE kit, coat, gloves, hats, scarves, etc. We have a box full of gloves and jumpers with no name on them. Also please name any containers you use inside the lunchbox. Remember no nuts or peanut butter please in your child's lunch. Thank you.
6. **BOOKBAGS**. Please could you make sure you regularly check and tidy out your child's book bag. We often find book bags full of letters and notes that have been sent home for you and often party invites that have been missed. Please do not put water bottles in book bags as we lose so many reading and library books due to this. Also a reminder not to put keyrings on their book bags. These often get caught in their drawers and there is not room for them. Thank you for your help with this.

Don't forget if there is anything you would like to ask us, feel free to come in and speak to any member of the team or jot down any messages in the red message folder.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Page
Natalie Clarke
Ladybird Class

Miss Jolliffe/ Mrs Way
Rosa Cooney
Bumblebee Class
The Early Years Team

Mr Effer
Sarah Difford
Butterfly Class

Once upon a time...

The Topic

For this topic, we will be reading familiar traditional tales; Rapunzel, Goldilocks and the Three Little Pigs. We will explore each story in turn and lots of work in each of the seven areas will be covered including- storytelling and role-play, playing with puppets, eating bread and even creating a room from the Three Bears cottage!

Useful Links:

You will find lots of topic related links on the school's website:

<https://www.hwis.hants.sch.uk/spring-1-once-upon-a-time/>

Interactive stories to share together:

The Three Little Pigs:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/interactive.aspx?cat=45>

The Gingerbread Man:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/stories/GingerbreadMan.aspx>

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- ~ To learn to co-operate by taking turns and joining in
- ~ To join in and enjoy a range of activities
- ~ To make simple choices between activities
- ~ To know what they enjoy and are good at
- ~ To care for plants and pets

Communication and Language

- ~ Various role-play scenarios including builders' yard, Three Bears cottage, Bakery
- ~ Drama - acting out the stories
- ~ Story telling using Drawing club actions/

Literacy

Phonics:

- ~ Working on Basics 3
- ~ Practise and assess sounds learnt so far

Word Reading and Comprehension:

- ~ The Three Little Pigs
- ~ High Frequency Words

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Writing:

- ~ Three Little Pigs
- ~ Rapunzel
- ~ Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Maths

Number and Calculation:

- ~ Number
- ~ Equals
- ~ Whole part, part
- ~ Bead string Addition
- ~ Problem solving

Numerical Patterns

- ~ 2D and 3D shape
- ~ Repeating patterns
- ~ Gingerbread Problem Solving
- ~ Bead string Addition

Physical Development

- ~ Cutting
- ~ Pegs
- ~ Beads
- ~ Puzzles
- ~ Cars and tracks
- ~ Lacing cards
- ~ Using pencils, pens, felt tips, chalks
- ~ Large construction
- ~ Bikes and scooters
- ~ Controlling bodies
- ~ Using the hall safely
- ~ Name tracing and writing
- ~ Gymnastics

Understanding the World

- ~ Three Little Pigs Story Map of our walk
- ~ Eggs as a Sign of New Life
- ~ Spring

Expressive Art and Design

- ~ Create music to accompany the stories
- ~ Storytelling and role-play
- ~ Repeating pattern pig
- ~ Build a wolf proof house

MATHS CHALLENGE!

Design your own map. You can be as creative as you like with this. It could be a map of your walk to school or visit to your favourite place. We can't wait to see what you come up with. When completing this challenge with your child use directional and positional language-forward, backwards, left, right, around, behind, in front, next to, opposite etc. Please bring your map into school by **Monday 23rd March**. Have fun!