

# Term 3 Class Newsletter 2026

## Reception Class News for the term ahead



**Bitham Brook**  
*Primary School*

Contact us:

[admin@bithambrook.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bithambrook.wilts.sch.uk)

01373 859 172

We would like to wish you all a fantastic Christmas and also wish you a Happy New Year!

### General Messages

Please continue to ensure your children bring minimal possessions into school. We would ask that all children no longer bring in toys now that they have been at school for two terms. When the children have PE, they should continue to wear their Bitham Brook PE kit into school with the school jumper over the top. This term is usually one of the coldest, so please ensure they have a really **warm** coat and hat as the children do spend lots of time outdoors all year round. Many of the children's jumpers/ cardigans/ coats/ water bottles are still not named. Please could you check over the holidays that your children's items are named.

Jays have dance on Wednesdays and Nightingales have dance on Tuesday. Our other PE day is Friday.

**This term our topic is 'Once upon a time', much of our learning will be linked to traditional tales.**

### Phonics

- We will continue with Phase 3. We will continue to practise CVC blending and segmenting and will apply the children's knowledge of blending and segmenting to read and spell simple words and captions.

### Maths

Our Maths work will focus on

- numbers, addition and subtraction within 10,
- grouping and sharing,
- number patterns within 15,
- doubling and halving,
- shape and pattern and time.
- odd and even numbers

### Writing

- We will be using 'Pie Corbett' style story-telling, whereby we use actions and story maps to retell familiar stories.
- We will write simple recounts.
- Three Little pigs - creating and labelling story maps, labelling a story setting,
- Speech bubble and caption writing.
- We will write factual sentences about wolves.
- We will continue to focus on correct letter formation.

### Reading

- Reading a variety of traditional tales.
- Introducing alternative traditional tales and comparing them with the original version.

### Supporting your child at home

Please hear your child read at home five times a week. Little and often is best.

Please continue to practice common exception words, phonemes and name writing.

### Art

- We will be looking closely at the work of the artist Bridget Riley and really beginning to refine our painting skills. We will also explore collage materials in order to create different textures in order to create story characters.

### PSHE

- Our lessons will focus around our dreams and goals including learning to persevere and tackle challenges, setting goals, and feeling proud of our achievements.

### Understanding the World

- We will learn about materials and their properties. We will widen our vocabulary when describing materials.
- We will explore the winter weather.
- We will be developing our knowledge of place - learning about cities, towns and villages.
- We will also learn that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.

### Physical development

- In PE we will be doing Netball. We will be learning how to pass a ball with some accuracy. We will also learn how to track a moving ball and how to stop and catch it with our hands. We will also continue our Dance sessions.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you to please write in your child's reading log book each time you read with them, as this is helpful for us to know how the children are progressing at home and when to change reading books. Please continue to support your child to practise reading common exception words. There are many words to learn, so it is important for you to support your child's progress. As we continue to work through the phonemes the children will be given new flashcards.

Finally, children need to bring a named bottle (with water in, not squash) to school each day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sophie Barnett, Ruth Kennedy, Laura Keay and Hermione Trypanis  
Reception Team