

Snowy Owls - January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and had some time to relax amongst the festivities! Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you for all the generous and thoughtful gifts that we received at the end of last term.

This letter will give you some extra information about what we will be covering this term and any changes that will be taking place. Remember if at any point you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please feel free to approach me on the playground at the end of the day or write a message in your child's reading record.

Literacy

This term, the children will be building on their writing skills from the autumn and embedding them through various writing activities including making book covers, letters, setting descriptions and character descriptions. We will also be linking some of our literacy to humanities where we will complete fact files about Nelson Mandela and Kenya. Additionally, children will be encouraged to use conjunctions and begin using subordination throughout different writing genres.

To become a successful writer, it is important that children are consistent with basic sentence punctuation (full stops and capital letters) as well as writing in a clear and

neat handwriting style. This term we will continue to practise letter shapes in our handwriting and phonics books.

Children who can form letters correctly in all book work and on the line, consistently and independently will be given a special colourful handwriting pencil to use for their work.

Maths

The areas will we cover this term include:

Addition and subtraction within 100
Multiplication and Division
Measurement: Length and Height
Statistics

How you can help at home

The best way to support is by hearing your child read at least 3 times a week and reading aloud to them. Research has shown this makes a huge difference in how well children go on to do later in school.

It is important that your child can confidently use mental addition and subtraction to recite number bond facts to 10 and 20. The following website has some great games to develop children's skills using number bonds and beyond plus a range of games to develop multiplication skills. The children can develop confidence using this and then you can challenge them with quick fire questions, such as, what do I add to 5 to make 17 or tell me a number bond to 20 in 5 seconds. These skills are fundamental to the depth of understanding that children in Key Stage One should develop. It would be extremely beneficial if your child can practice regularly at home. Do have fun with it.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

PE

Just a reminder that PE lessons this term will take place on Tuesday mornings. On Friday afternoon, Snowy Owls will do Forest school which involves lots of physical activities for the first half of term and mufti skills for the second half of the term. Please ensure that your child has their correct PE. kit in school for these days. Children may wear a tracksuit for PE in the cold weather.

Mr Smith will continue to teach PE on Tuesday mornings. Mrs Payne will continue to teach Snowy owls RE on a Tuesday morning.

Spring term curriculum at a glance	
History (1 st ½ term)	Nelson Mandela
PSHE	Dreams and Goals (1 st half term) Healthy Me (2 nd half term)
RE	What is the good news Jesus brings? What does the Torah mean for Jewish people?
Science	Animal safari
DT	Forest school (1 st half term) Cookery day (2 nd half term)

PE	Multi-skills Parachute games
Geography (2 nd ½ term)	Kenya
Art	Patterns in buildings Puppets
Computing	Programming – Pictograms Robot algorithms (bee bots)
Music	Round and Round Friendship Song

Home learning

Mathletics will be set each Tuesday for completion the following Monday and literacy homework on the same day, literacy homework will be set every two weeks related to the books we are reading in school or topic work via foundation subjects. This will be set via email or sometimes sent home as paper homework in book bags.

Children will bring new **spellings** home on a Monday and these need to be returned the following Monday with spellings practised ready for their test. Please ensure your child practises their spellings in their spelling book **3 times** and Year Two children write sentences out to contain some of the words. Year one children, please choose three words from your spelling list and write out sentences with these words. This helps children to practise the basics of using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops regularly. Spelling sentences completed in a favourite colour pen or in rainbow colours are accepted 😊

New reading books

We are delighted to have received new Little Wandle fluency reading books. Mrs Youngman has spent a lot of time colour coding the books into the relevant levels. Children will bring these home on Mondays and they need to be returned the following Monday. Each book taken home will be recorded and new books will not be issued until the previous book is returned. Sadly, many books are not returned to school and therefore our books become depleted. We do hope you are able to support us in looking after these costly books and join us in thanking the PTA for funding these.

Reading volunteers

We were fortunate enough to have some volunteers who came into school once a week last term to listen to children read. If you can volunteer one morning from 8.45 – 9.05a.m or one afternoon 2.45 – 3.15p.m, please come and speak to us. We would be thrilled to welcome you to Snowy owls. The children benefit from regular reading and love to see a visitor rather than listening to us all the time!

Some final reminders

Please provide your child with a named drinks bottle to use as they are actively encouraged to have a drink throughout the day. The children are very good at filling up their water bottles again when empty and this helps develop independent life skills. Please bring appropriate clothing for the weather and remember gloves on elastic threaded through coats does stop them getting lost! We would be most

grateful if gloves and hats are clearly named to help quick identification. Do encourage your child to practise putting on gloves themselves. We will also be encouraging children to collect their own items at the end of each day, again increasing independent life skills.

Needed items -yes please!

If you would like to donate some shared supplies of pencils, glue sticks, whiteboard pens and rubbers to Snowy Owls, we would be most grateful for extra supplies. As you can imagine, we regularly use these items and they run out quickly!

Finally, we would like to thank you for all your continued support last term with homework and all the work you do with your children. We are looking forward to the spring term and working as a team. It is always a pleasure to see the children grow in courage, kindness and respect as we hit the midpoint in the academic year during spring term.

Kind regards,

Mrs Thomson and Mrs Mann