

Reception – Apple Class; Learning Bulletin 9th January 2026

Happy New Year to you all. We hope that you had a restful and joyful break.

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week – full of smiles, stories and enthusiasm for the term ahead. We are very much looking forward to all the learning, growth and adventures that 2026 will bring.

Our new topic this half term is Polar Explorers and Animal Adventures. The children will focus on developing their environmental awareness, learn about icy habitats and explore what it means to be an adventurer.

The children created some beautiful 'Wintry sky with reindeer' artwork this week – definitely one to frame! The children explored water colours and techniques, carefully following instructions alongside their own creative awareness and skill development.

The children were mesmerized by the music by Tchaikovsky; 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy'. They also participated in some thoughtful snowflake action dancing.

This week's Jolly Phonics sound was 'y' as in 'ee' teddy, funny, Mummy, Daddy etc.. The children have also been introduced to the 'tricky words' 'you' and 'your'. (Tricky words cannot be sounded out) The aim is for your child to be able to read and spell the tricky words! Jolly phonics is also focusing on matching capital letters to lower case letters this term and we have been looking at the capital and lower case letters in our names.

CHALLENGE letter formation 'd' – Please help your child to form this letter correctly. Can they write Daddy with the correct letter formation?

This week the children were keen to get our class poetry book out and listen to their favourite poems. Our focus poem was 'Cats' by Eleanor Farjeon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tEKymIchIuA>

In PSED the children will be thinking about their dreams and goals. This week they were introduced to the concept of a challenge.

A super start to the Spring Term Apple class!

Here are some home learning ideas;

- Read and spell 'you' and 'your' – please see your child's phonics wallet
- Explore and use the mathematical language; more, less, fewer, during every day experiences
- Enjoy sharing your child's reading book together!
- Listen to 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy' by Tchaikovsky;
- Play Winter 'I spy, with my little eye'
- Encourage your child to look after their belongings
- Practise correct formation of the letter 'd'. Can they write Daddy with the correct letter formation?