

Key dates (please find more on our school website)

Most key dates can be found on our [school newsletters](#) and on the [school website](#).

Friday 7th November – ESA Sparkle Day & Sparkly Disco

Tuesday 11th November – Raccoon Class Assembly

Wednesday 12th November – Otter Class Assembly

Friday 14th November - Children in Need

Friday 5th December – ESA Christmas Jumper Day and Winter Wonderland

Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner

Thursday 18th December - Christmas party lunch and afternoon

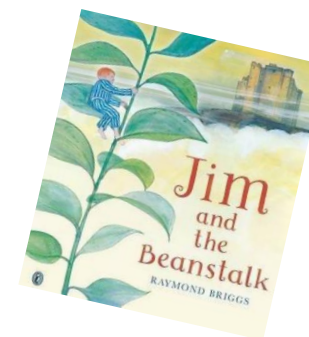
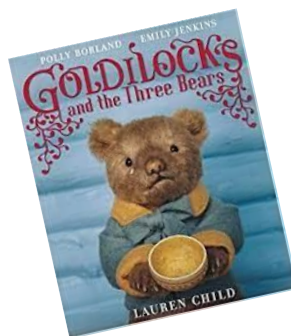
Friday 19th December – End of Autumn term

Monday 5th January – Inset training day (school closed)

Tuesday 6th January – Start of Spring term

Autumn 1

What is the Twist in the Tale?



Maths

This half term, our focus in mathematics will begin with developing our skills in addition and subtraction. We will then move on to explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify and describe their key properties. Later in the term, we will investigate measures, including mass, capacity, and temperature.

English

For much of our English learning this half term we will be using 'Jim and the Beanstalk' by Raymond Briggs. Through this text we will be looking at how to use capital letters, word spaces, full stops and question marks whilst writing in both the present and past tense. We will then move on to reading 'Goldilocks' by Lauren Child and the children will have opportunities to compare different perspectives on the same story.

Science

To link to our learning about Goldilocks, the children will learn about a variety of bears and will be finding out about how they are suited to their habitats. They will then have the opportunity to create their own habitat for a bear.



RE

Why is Christmas important to Christians?

We will discuss how and why Christians celebrate Christmas. We will talk about the significance of light at Christmas and why this is important to this celebration. The children will find out what some of the features of a Christingle are and the meaning of the features of a Christingle and their symbolism. We will also talk about different things Christians do to celebrate Christmas and make comparisons with other cultures and beliefs.

Music

In music this half term the children will be composing music using untuned percussion instruments in response to a visual stimulus based upon John Adam's composition ['short ride in a fast machine'](#).

They will continue to build upon their learning of rhythm and pitch patterns and will begin to use dot and dash notation as a means to read and write music. The children will also begin to learn that a piece of music is composed of layers. The children will listen to and appraise the piece of music Fantasia, sharing their thoughts and opinions and comparing it to John Adam's composition 'short ride in a fast machine'.

Geography

This half term in Geography, the children will be introduced to basic map-reading skills and simple cartographic concepts. They will explore the local area of St Ives, learning to identify key human and physical features. As part of this topic, the children will use symbols and keys to represent different features on a map and begin creating their own simple maps using accurate geographical language. We will also be developing their understanding of direction and location through the use of compass points, helping them to describe where places are and how to navigate their surroundings.

Computing

In this unit, we will explore how to follow and give instructions in the right order to make things happen, such as getting a character to move on a screen. We will learn to spot patterns and think logically about what might happen next. We will also begin to explore simple programming by creating our own artwork to use in a program. As part of this, we will come up with step-by-step instructions (called algorithms), turn them into simple computer programs, and learn how to fix any problems (debug) if things don't work as expected.

Art

This term, the children will be learning about one of the most famous works of art in history – the *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo da Vinci. They will explore who Leonardo da Vinci was, why the *Mona Lisa* is such a significant painting, and discuss some of the features that make it so recognisable. As part of this topic, the children will also be introduced to a range of drawing techniques, including shading, sketching, and using line and tone to add detail and depth to their work. They will then apply these skills to create their own portrait, taking inspiration from the *Mona Lisa*, while adding their own creative touches. This project will not only help develop their artistic skills but also encourage them to look closely, think critically, and express themselves through art.

PSHE

We will begin the term by helping the children explore their own emotions, recognising how different feelings can affect their thoughts and behaviour. As part of this, we will introduce the idea of being assertive - encouraging the children to express themselves confidently and respectfully, while also learning to listen to others. Following this, we will take part in our whole-school focus on *Anti-Bullying Week*. During this time, the children will learn the importance of speaking up if something feels wrong and identifying trusted adults they can turn to for help and support. Later in the term, our focus will shift to understanding the wider school community. We will discuss what it means to belong, celebrate the diversity within our school, and explore how everyone contributes to making our community a safe, welcoming, and inclusive place for all.

PE

In PE this half term the children will take part in team invasion games and sending and receiving objects. They will be exploring agility, co-ordination and balance through a range of activities.

Our PE days are Tuesdays and Fridays.

Your child should come to school on these days in PE kit. We will be going outside for some sessions so please ensure your child is appropriately dressed.

<u>Indoor PE</u>	<u>Outdoor PE</u> (weather permitting)
• White T-shirt or Red T-Shirt • Blue/Black Shorts • Bare feet	• White T-shirt or Red T-Shirt • Blue/Black shorts or Tracksuit bottoms • Tracksuit top • Trainers

Please note that football or any other team sports kit is not part of our PE kit and should not be worn on these days.