



22nd April 2026

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for the busy term ahead.

Our theme

This half term's theme is 'The Great British Bug Hunt'. We will be solving riddles from the King and finding out facts about lots of different 'minibeasts'. We will be supporting the topic with stories written by Eric Carle, using 'minibeasts' to help us with our calculations including doubling, and odd and even numbers. After half term, our theme will be 'Pirates'.

Please make a note of the upcoming dates and events happening in EYFS below:

Parent 'Stay, Help and Learn'

This term we will be creating individual bags with a 'minibeast' design on the front. We will be practising our sewing, cutting and joining skills and need your support, so we are inviting you or another member of the family to come and work alongside your child. You are welcome to come in for an hour, a full afternoon or even the whole three days; it is completely up to you. The classrooms will be open from **Tuesday 12th May - Thursday 14th May** for you to help your child to create their 'minibeast' bag from fabric, sewing all components together. The times that you can come in to help your child are:

9:00 – 10:15

11:00 – 11:45

13:30 – 15:00

Please complete the form at the bottom of the newsletter and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible so that we can ensure we can accommodate you in your selected slot. Unfortunately, we will not be able to have preschool siblings in school when you visit. Because of the Stay, Help and Learn event there will be no reading, Forest School or PE that week.

Visit to Lower Smite Farm - Friday 22nd May 2026

As part of our 'minibeast' theme the Foundation Stage children will be visiting the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, Lower Smite Farm, on Friday 22nd May. The children do not know that they are visiting yet, as they will find this out in the final riddle so please try to keep the surprise with us. The coach will leave at 9.15am and return by 3.30pm for a normal end of day pick up. Please see the letter sent out separately for further details and payments.

Theatre Trip - Tuesday 23rd June 2026

Our final trip of the year will be a visit to the Swan Theatre on Tuesday 23rd June to see a live performance of the brilliant Julia Donaldson story, Zog. More information will be sent out separately; please look out for this.

Phonics and reading

The children are doing fantastically with their phonics and have now learnt all of their digraphs (two letter sounds) and trigraphs (3 letter sounds). We will be continuing to work on blending phonemes for reading and segmenting for spelling. The children will be using words containing adjacent consonants (i.e. sp- e -nt and polysyllabic words (i.e. cat-er-pill-ar).

Spare clothing

Inevitably, from time to time children will have unavoidable accidents. We endeavour to deal with these as calmly and discreetly as possible. In order to do this, it is really helpful if each child has a set of spare clothes in a bag on their peg. Whilst we have a small stock of spare clothing it is more comforting for your child to be wearing their own clothes.

P.E.

This term we will be doing gymnastics and sports day practise before half term, and ball skills and games after half term. The sports day practise will take place outside, weather permitting, so we ask that children have both their indoor (black/green shorts, white t-shirt) and outside (black or navy tracksuit/jogging bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers) kits in school. PE kit needs to be in school at all times please.

Sun safety

With warmer weather soon to arrive, we ask that every child has a named sunhat in school for use on the playground, the outdoor classroom and during outside PE sessions, and a named water bottle. Please ensure that sun cream is applied to your child prior to the start of the day or that your child has sun cream in school which is named. We are unable to apply sun cream to your children so they will need to apply this themselves. Children are permitted to wear sunglasses however we recommend that these are inexpensive as school cannot take responsibility for loss or damage. Children will only be allowed to wear sunglasses outside. Sunglasses should be named and handed in by children to the class teachers during lesson time and collected for break and lunchtimes.

Learning Journey observations

Thank you to all of you who have continued to send in observations from home - they have been fantastic. We have received a lovely range of evidence, from children riding their bikes to children practising their number and literacy skills. As was said at the Autumn Workshops, your contributions are needed to help build up your child's learning journey and to provide us with evidence that we will never get the chance to see in school. Please send anything and everything into us; this could be on a post-it note, a piece of paper, the back of a cereal box or photographs. Remember you can email these straight to:

scampion@villagestrust.co.uk - Crocodiles

gfogwill@villagestrust.co.uk - Elephants

Please remember that these e-mail addresses are strictly for sending in evidence for your child. They are only checked weekly, so please do not send general correspondence via these emails as it will not be seen or responded to. To get messages to your child's class teacher please send in a note to be given directly to the class teacher on the door and **NOT put in book bags** as these too are only checked weekly.

With thanks for your support this term,

Gemma Fogwill, Sarah Campion and Katherine Grindrod (Class Teachers)

Katrina Hine, Rebecca Godfrey and Kerry Horne (Teaching Assistants)

PARENT STAY, LEARN AND HELP.

Child's name _____

Visitor's name and relationship to the child _____

(For example, Diane Thompson, grandma)

Please tick the date(s) and time(s) you will be joining us

	9:00 – 10:15	11:00 – 11:45	13:30 – 15:00
Tuesday 12 th May			
Wednesday 13 th May			
Thursday 14 th May			

Signed _____ Date _____