



# Hedgehog Class Newsletter

## Spring Term 2026



Welcome back! We hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas break. It has been lovely to hear about some of the exciting and interesting things the children have participated in over the Christmas holidays.

Mrs Gill and I would like to thank everyone for our wonderful cards and gifts.

### Children's Learning

We will start this term celebrating the New Year and setting some achievable goals for the coming year. The first half of this term our topic will be 'People who help us' (Who are you going to call?) and we will be learning about the emergency services, vets and teachers. The second half of this term our topic will be 'Traditional Tales' (Once upon a time) and we will be reading, retelling and writing stories to develop our storytelling skills.

In phonics we will be recapping set 1 'special friends' sounds and moving on to set 2 sounds. The children will be developing their phonic skills by applying their sound knowledge when writing words and simple sentences. We will continue to practise writing our names and will introduce daily handwriting sessions to practise letter formation. In our daily maths lessons, the children will be continuing to look at a number each week and developing a deeper understanding of the composition of each number, by the end of the spring term the children will be learning to recite number bonds to 10, count beyond 20 and independently solve simple addition and subtraction problems.

We will be continuing our cross-curricular approach to ensure that learning remains exciting and engaging. It is important for learning to link together and for the children to understand the purpose of their learning. The learning for the spring term in all areas of the EYFS are highlighted on the class topic web, also on the website.

This term a focus is given to our Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning. There are three areas that describe the behaviours children use in order to learn: playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically. To learn well, children must approach opportunities with curiosity, energy and enthusiasm. At Puttenham School, we have linked a memorable character to each area: Have a go Mouse, Persevering Tortoise and Thinking Pigs. This is to help the children to understand how they learn and provide them with the vocabulary to talk about their learning.

### Time Table

PE this term will take place on **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Please can your child come to school wearing their PE kit on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**.

Although we are not practising changing into PE kits at school, developing independence remains an important part of the Early Years Foundation Stage. By the end of Reception, children are expected to manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing themselves, using the toilet confidently, and beginning to understand the importance of healthy choices.

With this in mind, we would really appreciate your support at home in helping your child continue to build these skills — particularly with dressing independently and putting on their own coat.

#### **PE Uniform:**

- navy blue shorts
- royal blue school logo PE T-shirt
- trainers
- navy blue jogging bottoms and sweatshirt

#### **Home Learning**

The most important homework is reading everyday. This term you will continue to receive a reading book and an e-book that matches your child's phonic word and sound knowledge. E-books will be uploaded and reading books will be changed on Thursdays. We will continue to go to the library on Fridays.

Discussing books with your child is important; please encourage your child to retell the story to you, discuss characters and new vocabulary and to express their own opinion on a book. I will carry out regular phonic assessments to identify any gaps in sound knowledge and will inform you so you can support your child at home with recognising and learning the sounds.

The children will receive a Numberland activity sheet once we have learnt the number of the week.

Class Dojo will inform you of our learning each week.

#### **Parent Appointments**

Please ask if you have any questions or concerns, you can send me a message via the office or ask for a phone appointment. I am happy to talk to you and realise how important it is to sort things out promptly.

There will be parent consultations on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **Reminders**

Please remember named water bottles every day. We ask that these be filled with **water only** and not put in book bags.

Book bags need to be brought into school daily and checked in the evening. We will frequently send home important messages and letters. If your child has an accident at school, I will try to inform you at the end of the day. However, there will also be an accident report form in their book bag.

Milk for snack time can be ordered online (it is free for under 5's but still needs to be ordered) Snack (fruit or vegetable) is provided by the school.

Please let us know if your child is going home with someone other than you. I need to have this information in writing either on our going home clipboard or you can call/ email Mrs Hazzard in the office.

Children must have a waterproof coat/jacket at school every day so that we can enjoy the fantastic outdoor learning opportunities, whatever the weather.

#### **Important dates**

- Half term – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Inset day – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026
- School trip – Painshill Park – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026
- Come & see my learning followed by the Mother's Day assembly 8.45am
- End of term – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Church Service 9.15am. School finishes at 1pm

Thank you for your continued support,

**Class teacher:** Mrs Drury

Mrs Dynan (Weds pm)

**Learning Support Assistant:**

Mrs Gill

