



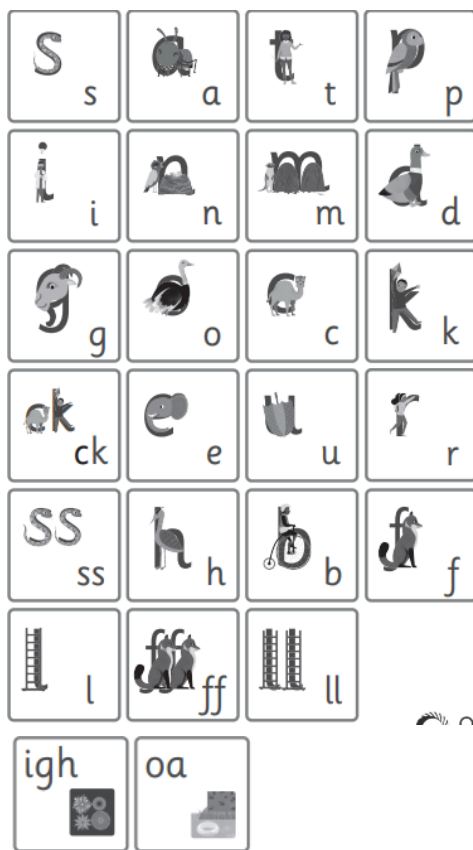
Friday 12th January

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We hope that you had a restful break! The children settled straight back into the school routines this week, it was as if they had never been away. We have really enjoyed hearing about the different ways families have celebrated Christmas and the New Year. It sounds like they all had a lovely Christmas break and hopefully a well-earned rest. We would like to say 'thank you' for all the lovely Christmas presents and cards.

This week we began our formal handwriting lessons. At Gothic Mede, we use a programme called Letter join and teach a print handwriting style. This week we focused on the letter family which includes the letters i/l/t. You are able to access Letter Join from home to further support your child with the formation of these letters. Attached to this newsletter you will find details of how to access Letter join from home. It is really important that when you login to Letter join you select your child's class. If you choose the wrong class the font will not match the print handwriting style that they have been taught.

Before the break, we undertook some phonic assessments with all the children to see which sounds they knew and how well they could blend and segment words. We were impressed with the results of these, with all children demonstrating that they have made great progress with their phonics skills since starting school. We wanted to thank you for your continued support at home too, as this progress would not have been possible without this additional help and is really invaluable. Please continue to practise phonic sounds and harder words. Below you will see the sounds and hard to read words that we have covered so far this academic year.



I	the	to	go	he	she
no	put	into	pull	buses	we push
of	is	as	his	me	be her
					my

It is great to see the observations on Tapestry from home. These observations complement the school observations to make a detailed picture of your child's development. Please keep the home observations coming!

### **Reminder**

SHOW AND TELL- The theme for Show and Tell this half term is **WINTER**. Below you will find a list of dates. Y

19th January – Green Ivel

26<sup>th</sup> January – Yellow Purwell

2nd February – Red Pix

9th February - Blue Hiz

Speaking, listening, attention and understanding skills form a large part of the Early Years curriculum so this is a great opportunity for your child to practise these skills. Drawing on your child's own experiences is a great way to introduce this task and we usually find they are much more confident to speak about things that they are familiar with. We love to see photos and videos on Tapestry that your child can then talk about during Show and Tell.

In preparation, you could:

- Go for a wintery walk
- Look at books themed around winter

- Explore snow (if we are lucky enough!) and ice
- Create a wintery collage

Best wishes,

Mrs Webber, Mrs Undrell, Mrs Britton and the Reception Team