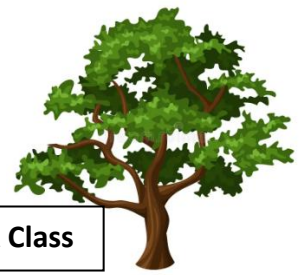
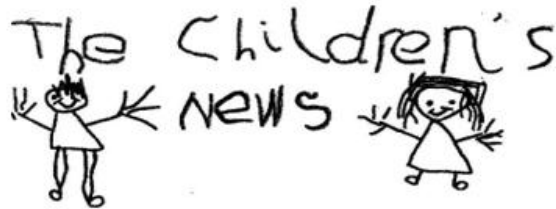


Ash Class

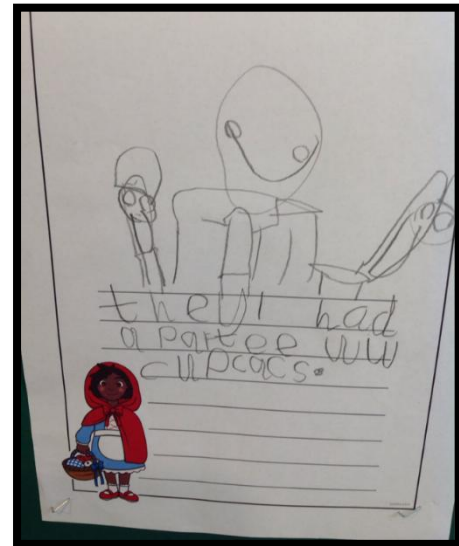
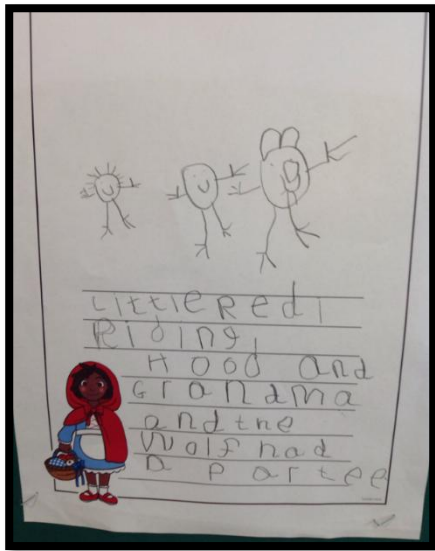


Oak Class

6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

It has been a very busy couple of weeks in Ash and Oak classes. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the maths morning on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January. We hope you found it useful and are enjoying using the weekly maths packs with your children. It has been good to see so many children engaging with this at home on your Tapestry observations.

The children have continued to enjoy our topic on Little Red Riding Hood and have been thinking of some alternative endings to the story and writing them down. They have produced some fantastic writing.



Despite the cold, wet weather, the children have enjoyed their visits to Forest School. We have focused on the RSPB Big Bird Watch over the last couple of weeks; talking about the types of birds we might see, what they eat, their habitats etc. The children have really enjoyed making eco bird feeders out of oranges and bird seed. These have been hung up in Forest School to help the birds through the winter months. Back in the classroom, the children have enjoyed our focus on British birds, looking at pictures of them and recreating the colours using pastels. We focused on careful observation and using realistic natural colours. Some children took this learning further, investigating colour mixing to make a greenish colour for the Bluetits. Some children produced collage pictures with a bird theme; practising their cutting and drawing skills. We provided them with large sheets of paper to do this and many children worked with their friends to produce lovely pieces of art whilst practicing their communication and language, speaking, negotiation and problem solving skills. The children are quite rightly, very proud of their achievements.





### **Staff News**

We are very happy to welcome Miss Staniford to the Reception team. She is well known to the children, having been a valued member of our kitchen team for many years. She now steps into the role of Learning Support Assistant (LSA) and will be mainly based in Ash Class. At half term, we will be saying goodbye to Miss D who has been with us on a temporary basis as an LSA for several months now. She will be welcoming her very own new arrival in early spring and we wish her all the very best.

### **Weekend writing**

Now that the children are getting a little more used to writing short phrases and sentences, we are looking for regular opportunities for them to practise this. One of the ways we are doing this, is by asking them to draw and write about their weekend each Monday morning. We have talked about this and the children have thought of some nice ideas of simple sentences they would like to write. It would be really helpful for them if you could chat about this on a Monday morning before school and remind them of what they have done over the weekend. It can be anything really; I played with my cars, I went to the park, I took the dog for a walk, I went to the shop with my daddy etc etc. We will encourage the children to have a go at writing the words independently using the displays to help them. We always talk about how this might be tricky but that we need to keep practising so that it gets easier. We talk about being a 'Persevering Parrot' and trying and trying even when it is difficult.

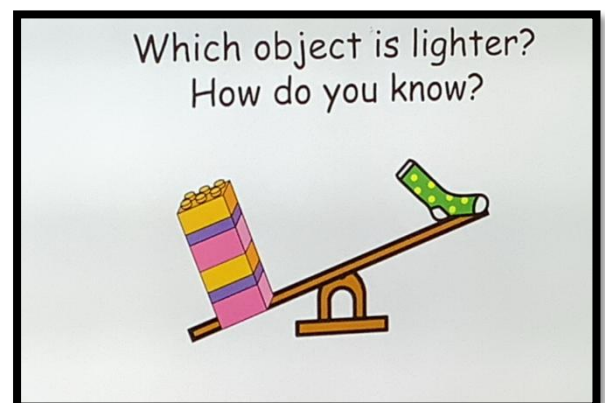
### **Phonics**

This week and next week, we are recapping and reinforcing the children's understanding of the Phase 3 and 4 sounds. We have been focusing on reading phrases and sentences and have practised this daily in our phonics lessons. We have also been practising writing words and phrases containing Phase 3 and 4 sounds on a daily basis.

### **Maths**

In our maths sessions, we have been learning about measuring mass. We have been using the words; Lighter, heavier, balanced. Full, nearly full, empty etc. We have been using the balance scales and talking about which items are heavier and lighter.

Last week we investigated shapes with 4 sides (rectangles and squares) and found lots around the setting.



## Forest School dates

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Feb – Ash

### **Half Term**

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Oak

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar – Ash

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Mar – Oak

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Mar – Ash

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Oak

### **Easter Holidays**

## Important Reminders:

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> we are having Number Day! We are asking the children to come into school 'dressed for digits' - Please can you send your child in wearing an item of clothing with a number on, or representing a number. This can be a favourite sports top, cap or you could get creative and design your own unique t-shirt!

Please send in a named carrier bag on Forest school days for your child to put their muddy boots in when we return to school.

Please can we remind you that the children's own toys/ jewellery etc should not be sent into school. This is because items go missing or get played with by other children which can be very distressing for the children. It can also be very distracting for the children in adult lead learning time.

## Homework/ Show & Tell;

### **Reading & Phonics;**

Daily reading & daily HRSW practise

### **Spring Handwriting Homework;**

Letter-join 

<https://www.gothicmede.org.uk/page/?title=Homework&pid=121&action=saved>

### **Spring Maths Homework;**

For maths homework this half term, the children will receive a pack at the Maths Workshop on Friday. They will then receive a pack of games weekly for the following 4 weeks. These will be explained in the maths workshop that is being held on Friday in the hall.

## Diary dates

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Number Day

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb - SEND coffee morning - Supporting SEND in the Home. Guest Speaker. Please book with Mrs Glendon

16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb – Half Term Holiday

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 4.30-7.00pm – Parent Consultation evening

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 4.00- 6.30pm – Parent Consultation evening

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

Week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> March – Science Week

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm – Nursery Bedtime story. For all children below school age whether they attend GMA or not. Do sign up and bring your little ones along (older siblings are welcome to attend too)

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of Spring Term