

# Term 4 Newsletter - Otter Class



Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 4! Halfway through the academic year already! We are so excited for Spring to arrive along with warmer weather. We hope you're looking forward to the term ahead and lots of more exciting learning opportunities.

## The Reception Class team:

Class Teacher - Becca

Learning Support Assistant – Kelly

PPA cover (Friday AM) – Lily

## Enquiry Questions this term: What can we make and grow?

This term we will be exploring lots of life-cycles, baby animals, growing plants the changes in season and taking our learning outside much more often.

*If you or a family member have anything interesting to contribute to our learning, do let me know, we would love to have your contributions. Do you or someone you know hatch baby chicks? Do you work on a farm with baby animals? Perhaps you grow your own fruit and vegetables at an allotment? 😊*

Rights Respecting Schools – here are some of our focus rights this term.

Article 17 – access to information

Article 13-sharing thoughts freely

Article 29 – Aims of education

Article 23 – children with disabilities

Article 3 – Best interests of a child

Article 24 - You have the right to clean water, healthy food, a clean environment, and good healthcare.

## Teaching and Learning This Term

Our focus book this term is **The Bog Baby**

*Also, from our cannon of literature we will be reading Jack and the Beanstalk*

The gigantic turnip

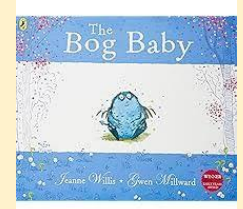
Farmer duck

Emily Brown and The Thing

Handa's surprise

Oliver's vegetables

How a seed grows



Our medium-term overview is now available on the class page of our website.

[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(YR\)](#)

Home Learning

## Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

## Phonics / writing

We will be following the Little Wandle phonics scheme. Term 4 – Phase 3

Letter join [Log In \(letterjoin.co.uk\)](http://letterjoin.co.uk) Username - qr7427 Password - home

## Maths

[Click here to view our parent guide on how to support with mathematics.](#) This has lots of ideas on play-based activities to help your child with key mathematical skills.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise early number facts at home.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. [Early Years](#)

[Busy Things can be accessed from home with useful maths games and activities.](#)

## Other important information/notes for the time ahead

### Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

### Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading over 4 times get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

### School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

### Library Day

**Our Library Day is on Tuesday**

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

### PE Day

**Our PE day is Friday**

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

### Class Assembly Date

Keep the date in your diary! Our class assembly for this academic year is on:

**Reception: Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jun – 2.40pm**

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

**What does my child need to bring into school every day?**

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- Library book on library days

**Please name everything**

**Healthy Snacks for Playtime**

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

**For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.**

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.