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## Reception Newsletter w/c 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Reception Families,

We are really proud of how well all of the children have settled back into school life, after the holidays and have enjoyed hearing about what they got up to! Everyone really enjoyed reading the Jolly Postman and created some fantastic story maps. It was very exciting to experience snow falling, during play time on Tuesday!

### Reading at home

Last week, we visited the library bus. Please return these books to school every Monday. On Friday, Little Wandle reading books were sent home. Please return these to school every Wednesday in their plastic wallet. Below are a few reminders about how best to support your child with reading at home.

Please ensure you read with your child at least three times a week and record this into their green reading diary. It's really important you record the reading you are doing so that we know this vital activity is taking place. There is no expectation to read the whole book in one sitting, you could read a few pages or alternate pages between adult and child. To support the children's progress in reading and phonics, it is also really important to regularly practice the tricky words, as part of your reading at home routines. We are passionate about ensuring the children develop a love of reading so strongly encourage bed time stories, trips to the library and sharing their library bus book too. We appreciate your support with this.

### Learning

This week we will be thinking about people who help us on the high street. On Thursday, we will go on a local walk to visit the bakery. We will think of questions to ask them about the job that they do.

### **Communication, Language & Literacy:**

In drawing club, we will read the interactive story 'The High Street' by Alice Melvin.

We will learn some new vocabulary; confectionary, rumble, business, bakery and fragile. You could talk about these words at home and ask your child to show you the actions we have learnt!

We will write CVC words.

We will begin to write words and phrases.

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## Phonics

We will learn the below diagraphs:



oo  
zoom to the moon



oo  
hook a book



ar  
march in the dark



or  
born with a horn

We will learn the tricky words **was**, **you** and **they**. Look out for 'tricky word buttons' coming home on sticky labels on the children! If you press the button, they will say the tricky word in a funny voice!

## Maths:

In maths we will explore the composition of the number 5. We will use a variety of resources to find different ways to make 5 using 2 and 3 parts. At home, you could build towers of 5 and split it into 2. Ask questions such as how many altogether? How many each part? Can you find another way?

## Other Areas of Learning:

- **UW (Understanding the World)** – We will be learning about the high street and will go on a local walk to the bakers. We will think about how we can be safe when walking on the pavement and crossing the roads.
- **PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)**- This term the PSHE theme is Dreams and Goals.
- **EAD (Expressive arts and design)** – We will create some crafts linked to the new sounds we are learning in phonics.
- **PD (Physical development)** - we will learn how to handle a ball in different ways.

## Notices/reminders:

- During this cold weather spell, please ensure your child wears a warm, padded coat to school every day. Hats, scarves and gloves are also encouraged. We would really appreciate your support with helping the children to be able to independently put these items on and ensuring they are labelled, thank you!
- We will be holding Reception Stay, Play & Learn session w/c 26<sup>th</sup> January. To book a slot, please click on the relevant class link below: We have space for 1 adult per family, per child, with 6 spaces each day.

RL - <https://buytickets.at/saxonprimaryschool/2017661>

RM - <https://buytickets.at/saxonprimaryschool/2017675>

Kind Regards,  
Mrs Morley, Mrs Duxon and Mrs Lewis

Phase 3 tricky word	Tricky part(s)	Why is it tricky?
was	a	The 'a' makes the sound <b>o</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'a', your child has learned the sound <b>a</b> as in 'cat'.
you	ou	Your child has not yet learned the different sounds made by the digraph 'ou'. Here, it makes the sound oo (as in 'food').
they	ey	Your child has not yet learned the different sounds made by the digraph 'ey'. Here, it makes the sound <b>ai</b> .
my by	y	The 'y' makes the sound <b>igh</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'y', your child has learned the sound <b>y</b> as in 'yap'.
all	a	The 'a' makes the sound <b>or</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'a', your child has learned the sound <b>a</b> as in 'cat'.
are	whole word	This is a rare spelling of the sound <b>ar</b> .
sure	whole word	The 's' makes the sound <b>sh</b> . The 'ure' makes two sounds ( <b>yoo</b> plus the schwa sound). <i>These are rare spellings for these sounds.</i>
pure	ure	The 'ure' makes two sounds ( <b>yoo</b> plus the schwa sound). <i>This is a rare spelling for these sounds.</i>

Phase 2 tricky word	Tricky part(s)	Why is it tricky?
l	i	The 'i' makes the sound <b>igh</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'i', your child has learned the sound <b>i</b> as in 'pin'.
the	e	It is rare for 'e' to make the schwa sound at the end of a word.
put* pull full push	u	The 'u' makes the sound <b>oo</b> (as in 'book'). <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'u', your child has learned the sound <b>u</b> as in 'cup'.
and	nd	Your child has not yet learned how to blend together adjacent consonants.
her	er	Your child has not yet learned the digraph 'er'. <b>Note:</b> They will learn this digraph later in the Spring term.
go no	o	The 'o' makes the sound <b>oa</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'o', your child has learned the sound <b>o</b> as in 'dog'.
to into	o	The 'o' makes the sound oo (as in 'food') or the schwa sound, depending on context. <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'o', your child has learned the sound <b>o</b> as in 'dog'.
she he we me be	e	The 'e' makes the sound <b>ee</b> . <b>Learning so far:</b> For 'e', your child has learned the sound <b>e</b> as in 'egg'.
of	f	The 'f' makes the sound <b>v</b> . <i>This is a rare spelling for this sound.</i>



# RECEPTION SNACKS

*If your child brings a snack for break time at Saxon Primary School, please choose from the approved list: **fresh fruit or vegetables, dried fruit, plain rice cakes, breadsticks, plain crackers, plain pitta/wrap (no filling), yoghurt tube or a handful of sugar-free cereal.** Please make sure fruits, such as grapes, are sliced in half **vertically** (or ideally quartered.)*

*Please avoid snacks such as fruit winders, crisps, pastries and other high sugar/salt snacks. If the children do bring something in that is not a healthy snack, we will offer a piece of school provided fruit and send the snack home with the children.*

*Many thanks for helping us keep snack time healthy!*

