

Emerald Class Newsletter

January 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a happy new year.

We continue to follow the Hygge in the Early Years curriculum with themes linked to the natural environment. A list of this term's themes is at the end of this newsletter.

Reading and writing

We will continue to have pre-reading sessions which include listening and identifying sounds and exploring rhyme, rhythm and alliteration. There are plenty of opportunities for the younger children to develop their fine motor skills and use a variety of tools to make marks: both important for preparation before learning to write. The reception children will continue to have phonics lessons every morning and handwriting in the afternoon. They will also have a teacher led writing session each week. In addition, we aim to hear the reception children read twice a day.

Story time and singing continue to take place just before lunch and at the end of the day and the children also learn poems and rhymes linked to our themes. Listening to stories, singing and learning rhymes are all important aspects of learning to read and enjoy books.

Maths

Maths is taught through play and maths games linked to our themes in the mornings. In the afternoons we use Hamilton Maths Scheme which consists of short lessons and games.

Tooth brushing

The children will continue to brush their teeth every morning at school.

PE

PE lessons are on THURSDAY afternoons this term, so could all children who are in school on Thursday afternoons come to school in their PE kits. The PE kit should consist of: a white tee-shirt, blue or black shorts and trainers with black jogging bottoms and a sweat shirt or hooded top for colder weather.

Library Books

The children will be given the opportunity to take home and change a school library book on a Friday.

Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has their NAMED water bottle in school every day. The water bottles should contain plain water. However, if your child will only drink squash we suggest that you try to gradually dilute it so that, hopefully, they will eventually be drinking water. Please talk to us if there is a problem with this.

Clothing

Please can you ensure that your child's uniform is clearly named, this helps us ensure they go home with the correct items.

Jane Stringall
Class Teacher

Week 1	New year
Week 2	Deer
Week 3	Snow
Week 4	Lunar New Year
Week 5	Bark
Week 6	Rain
Week 7	Rainbows
Week 8	Ramadan
Week 9	Rainbows
Week 10 &11	Snails
Week 12	Soil
Week 13	Easter

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any cause for concern, however small, please do not hesitate to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). You may also refer any concerns to the Integrated Front Door Team on 0300 300 8585 (Mon-Thurs 0845-1720hrs and Fri 0845-1620hrs). The out of hours number is 0300 300 8123. Email : IFD@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

As part of our Safeguarding Policy, mobile phones **MUST NOT** be used on school premises. This is to protect you as much as it is to protect the children.

Please visit our school website www.ridgmont-lower.org.uk where you will find links to a wide range of support and advice. Head to PARENTS→USEFUL LINKS AND INFORMATION.

SAFEGUARDING CONTACT INFORMATION

DSL – Allison Jakes. Headteacher. headteacher@ridgmont-lower.org.uk

DDSL – Jane Stringall. Senior Teacher. jstringall@ridgmont-lower.org.uk