



John Blandy Primary School

Thursday 8th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! It has been so wonderful to see the children returning to school this week with lots of energy and tales of very happy Christmas holidays.

Curriculum

Please see the attached sheet which outlines our curriculum this term. It is titled 'Once upon a time...' We will be focusing our exploration of some well-known fairy tales; The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man and The Little Red Hen. We will use these stories as a starting point for role play and writing as well as to learn about materials, houses and homes.

Phonics and Reading

Thank you so much for all your support with reading at home. It is fantastic to read the comments you write about your child's progress and your support really makes a difference. This term we will continue to change children's reading books weekly. In addition to home readers, the children may occasionally come home with extra reading sheets, books or word cards to follow up on work done in class. These will go into your child's book bag, and we'll tell the children to let you know that they have some extra bits to look at.

Clothing

In this cold weather please ensure your child has appropriate layers and a hat, gloves etc which need to be labelled with their name. It would also be fantastic if you can encourage your child to practise putting on their coat and doing zips and gloves by themselves. These skills are all part of learning and development in Early Years, and it makes the children so much more confident if they can tackle these tasks independently. It also means everyone gets warmer a lot quicker in the cold weather if they aren't queuing up to get help from an adult!

PE days

Oak class PE days continue as Friday each week. Birch Class will now have PE on Wednesday each week. Please ensure your child has a kit in school that includes trainers for our outdoor PE sessions.

Forest School

Birch had so much fun at Forest School last term and we are planning to start Forest School sessions on Tuesday 13th January for Oak Class. You will have received information about this if your child is in Oak Class, but if you have queries do come and ask us. Please ensure your child has their Forest School kit with them on Tuesday, in a named bag. Forest school will be every Tuesday for the rest of this term.

Library Book Boxes

We are keen for the children to be able to borrow picture books from school to share at home. We will continue to put library book boxes outside regularly so that children can choose a book to take home so

www.johnblandyprimary.org.uk

John Blandy Primary School, Laurel Drive, Southmoor, Oxfordshire. OX13 5DJ

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Headteachers: Mrs Suzanne Elliott





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please look out for these. This is in addition to any school books that are issued by school staff. Please take a book, enjoy at home and then return and swap it for another when you are ready.

Warmest regards,

The Reception Team

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