



Meltham CE Primary School
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Headteacher Mr P Gibbins

December 2026

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our Foundation Stage Spring term newsletter for next term.

This term we have lots of exciting things going on and lots to learn! Firstly, we will be enjoying the topics of Chinese New Year and Traditional Tales, and after half term we will learn about New life and On the Farm. In our Religious Education learning, our topic is 'What we see in our Wonderful World'

<u>Phonics</u>	After working hard learning our phonemes and digraphs, we will introduce many new digraphs (2 letters 1 sound – oa, ee, ie, oo) and trigraphs (3 letters 1 sound – ear, air, igh). We will also continue to work on blending and segmenting words to read and spell. Weekly homework will continue to be sent on a Thursday to support phonic and maths knowledge.
<u>Reading</u>	We will continue our group reading sessions in class. We will be doing 2 sessions a week and we will continue to send individual reading books home. Please keep reading at home and sign your child's reading diary. Your child may be awarded a reading certificate in our celebrations assembly.
<u>Literacy</u>	We will be applying our phonic knowledge, practising pencil control, handwriting and letter formation, spelling of key words and sentence structure.
<u>Maths</u>	We will focus on understanding and applying numbers within 10, mass and capacity, length, height, time and exploring 3D shapes.
<u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u>	We will be making New Year resolutions, discussing feelings and emotions, saying sorry, understanding the importance of sleep and keeping healthy, circle time activities, whole school assemblies, Celebration and Shining Stars assemblies.
<u>Expressive arts and design</u>	We will be creating Chinese New Year crafts, cooking, exploring colour, making rhythms, painting, singing, role play and acting out Traditional Tales

<u>Understanding the world</u>	We will observe seasonal changes during our welly day. We will explore ice baubles and our continuous outdoor provision. We will learn about Chinese New Year traditions and understand cultural differences through reading non-fiction books and artefacts. We will enhance our learning about new life through our school trip to the farm. We will be hatching our own ducklings and learn how to care for them.
<u>Physical Development</u>	We will continue P.E focusing on fundamental movements and ball skills. We have access to outdoor provision, gross and fine motor control activities.
<u>Communication and Language</u>	We will have opportunities to use story language, retelling traditional tales, circle times, daily questioning and speaking in our class assembly.

Class Assembly

Our first Foundation Stage Year Group assembly will be on **Friday 23rd January at 9.15am**. Grown-ups are very welcome to attend our class assembly. Please meet at the main entrance at 9am.

Spring 1 PE – Wednesdays with Rick

This half term, PE will change to a **Wednesday**. It will be indoor PE in the hall, learning the fundamentals of movement. Please dress your child in PE kit on a Wednesday from 7th January 2026 until February half term.

Spring 2 Outdoor PE – Mondays with Kirk

After February half term, we will have outdoor PE lessons with Kirk. This will be on **Monday**. Please dress your child in outdoor PE kit from Monday 23rd February. This will consist of a plain white t-shirt and dark black or blue hoodie, plain black or navy jogging bottoms and trainers.

Name reminder

Please ensure **all** items of clothing, bags and water bottles are named, this includes jumpers, cardigans, hats, scarves, gloves, waterproofs and wellies. We always endeavour to return property to its rightful home - thank you! Please check the uniform and belongings you have at home, as we do have some missing items. Thank you.

'Just in case' bag

We send your child's 'just in case' bag home at the end of every term as they may need refreshing, they may have grown out of clothes or they may have been used.

Please return it with them on **their first day back in January**. Please label everything right down to socks and underwear. As the weather worsens, the children must have a spare change of clothes in school in a labelled bag. We recommend a white t-shirt, a jumper/cardigan, socks/tights, a few pairs of underwear, trousers (plain joggers or school trousers) or skirt / dress. We have **very** few items of spare clothing at school, so these bags are extremely helpful.

Welly Day

Each year group will participate in a Welly Day once a term. Our Welly Day will be on **Friday 20th March**. Our whole year group will spend the day together exploring our grounds, making Spring crafts and learning lots about the change in the season. On this day, your child will need to come dressed **comfortable, old clothes** (no uniform needed) as we plan to get a little muddy. Please also bring waterproof trousers/puddlesuit, a warm, waterproof coat and of course, wellies. We will plan to be outside all day, so please ensure your child will be warm and dry.

Stay and Play

Each term we enjoy inviting our grown-ups into our classrooms to see the exciting things we get up to! There will be lots of activities for you to have a go at and anything you make, you can take home! We ask that a maximum of two adults per child attend as we have a limited amount of space. Class 1's Stay and Play will be on **Thursday 5th March** at 2.15pm and Class 2's Stay and Play will be on **Wednesday 4th March** at 2.15pm. Please arrive at the main entrance slightly before 2.15pm to sign in.

Communications

'Headlines' is the whole school newsletter which is emailed out to parents every other Friday. Please take the time to read it as it contains information about whole school events and important dates. Please make sure you have the Spider app and check frequently to be aware of reminders and also our Curriculum newsletters each term.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 5 th January 2026	Start of Spring 1 term
Friday 23 rd January 2026	EYFS Year Group assembly 9.15am – parents welcome
Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February	HALF TERM
Monday 10 th March & Wednesday 12 th March 2026	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 19 th March 2026	Welly Day

Thursday 19 th March 2026	Sing Up assembly
Thursday 5 th March 2026	Class 1 Stay and Play – parents welcome
Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Class 2 Stay and Play – parents welcome
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 13 th April 2026	Start of Summer 1 term

There is a lot of information and a lot to remember on this newsletter so please take the time to read it carefully. Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support.

Class Teachers and Educational Teaching Assistants

Class 1 – Mrs. Wimpenny, Mrs. Spittlehouse
emma.wimpenny@kirkleeseducation.uk

Class 2 – Ms Mottram, Mrs Osborne Mrs. Charlton
nicola.mottram1@kirkleeseducation.uk

jenny.osborne@kirkleeseducation.uk

PPA Teachers – Mrs. Stier (Class 1 Mon pm) and Mrs Widdop (Class 2 Monday pm)