

HARTFORD MANOR

PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



Spring 1 Term 2 2026

(January—February)

Newsletter

Early Years—Reception



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back and a happy new year! We hope you have all had a fabulous Christmas break and the children are excited for the upcoming weeks at school. Again, this term, we will be exploring lots of different themes within our provision, including: learning about the season of winter, finding out about lunar new year and exploring superheroes and real life heroes through our topic 'What are your superpowers?' This booklet is to give you more information about the areas of learning.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED)

We will be learning about the importance of making good choices and being kind to those around us and the environment. We will be discussing the possible consequences of our actions. We will also be learning why it is important to eat healthily and why we need to regularly clean our teeth.

Physical Development (PD)

In PD we will be continuing to develop the children's fine and gross motor skills through a range of activities such as cutting, threading and drawing. We will also be completing a dance unit during our PE sessions. PE sessions will continue to take place every **Monday**.

Phonics

We will continue to use the Floppy's phonics programme to teach phonics, which has two sessions for each letter. We begin with an interactive, whole class session where the children practice saying the sound, draw it in the air and listen for the sound in words. In session two, the children complete an activity sheet in small groups. During this half term, we will introduce the children to the sounds le, ss, j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, dge, ve, wh. We will also be introducing the following helpful words: **he, she, we, me, be, was, you, they, all, are, her, when, off, six, seven and have**.

Literacy

In literacy, we will be doing lots of speaking and listening activities as a whole class and in small groups. We will be sharing our ideas and thoughts during class discussion time. We will also be listening to a range of texts including stories, poetry and non-fiction to

help develop our vocabulary. We will be looking at the nursery rhyme 'Incy Wincy Spider' and the stories 'Juniper Jupiter' and 'The Hospital Dog'. We will be using these stories to help us write a caption and a simple sentence.

Maths

This term we will be introduced to the number 0 and will be subitising numbers to 5. We will be exploring, representing and comparing numbers 6-8 and will be looking at odd and even numbers and also the concept of doubling. We will also be exploring and comparing capacity.

The World (Understanding of the World)

In 'The World' we will be looking at real life heroes and the role of a police officer, fire fighter, doctor, teacher and vicar. We will also be learning about the season of winter and the changes that we see; we will explore ice and find ways it melts. During this term, we will also be learning about how and why people celebrate lunar new year.

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

In EAD we will be learning more nursery rhymes and songs including 'Wind the bobbin up' and 'If you're happy and you know it' and we will begin to play notes on the glockenspiel in time to music. We will also be joining different materials to make our own superhero vehicles.

Reading

This week we have resumed our love of reading and guided reading sessions. Your child's day to change their book may have changed so please look out for the book in the book bag. The Y6 reading buddies will be coming to listen to readers each week, so please help us by ensuring that your **child's decodable book and reading diary is in their book bag every day**. Also try to re-read this book at home at least three times a week to help build fluency.

Are you a real-life superhero?

This half term we will be learning all about superheroes and what makes them super. If you are a doctor, nurse, firefighter, police officer, vet, supermarket worker, teacher etc (or have family members who are) then we would love it if you could come to talk to the children about your job. Please speak to a member of the team if you are able to help us.

Homework

We have sent home the Level 1 helpful words for you to practice. We have also sent home the Floppy Phonics Activity book, as we have now finished activity book 1 these can stay at home. Please use these activity books to practise previously taught sounds and words.

Mystery Reader

Would you like to be a Mystery Reader? All you have to do is choose your child's favourite story, read it to the class at story time and keep it a secret. If you would like to volunteer, please speak to your child's class teacher at drop off / pick up. Grandparents are welcome too!

Stay and Play

Would you like to come and see what your child does all day in school? After February half term, we will be offering a number of dates where you can stay, after you have dropped off, and experience some of the learning opportunities your child has on a day-to-day basis. We ask that only one member of the family attends as it can become very busy. If you are unable to come, other relatives are welcome. Please see the dates listed below: -

Goslings

Tuesday 17th March, drop off till 10am
Wednesday 6th May, drop off till 10am
Wednesday 24th June, drop off till 10am

Cygnets

Wednesday 18th March, drop off till 10am
Thursday 7th May, drop off till 10am
Wednesday 23rd June, drop off till 10am

Thank you for your continued support and we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead.

**Thank you,
Reception Team**