

# Hamp Nursery and Infant School



## Autumn Term 2025 Newsletter



# WHAT AN AMAZING TERM IT HAS BEEN!



Well done everyone! We have reached the end of our first, busy term of the academic year, and what a fantastic start it has been! Our new Nursery and Reception children have settled in brilliantly and we are thrilled with the determination and enthusiasm all the children have shown in their learning. This term has been packed with memorable experiences - from our theme week, Celebrating Differences and engaging Phonics, Online Safety and RSHE workshops, to crafting afternoons, a Welly Walk to see the Fair, a festive Christmas Theme Week, a Christmas Movie Night, supporting our local foodbank, and our amazing Nativity performances of Honky Tonky Donkey.

Your support and involvement as parents have been wonderful and we are incredibly grateful. We look forward to continuing this strong partnership in the new year!

# This Term's Key Theme...

This term we have been focusing on our key theme 'Celebrating Differences'. Below are some of the key days and events that classes have explored.



Term theme	<u>Autumn Term</u> <u>Celebrating Differences</u>	
Religious Events	Rosh Hashanah (23.09.25) Harvest Festival (06.10.25) Diwali (21.10.25)	Winter Solstice (21.12.25) Christmas (25.12.25)
Other Notable Events	Bridgwater Fair (starts 24.09.2025) Black History Month (October 2025)	National Poetry Day (03.10.25) Remembrance Day (11.11.25)
Awareness Days	World Mental Health Day (10.10.25)	World Children's Day (20.11.25)
<u>Theme Weeks</u>	"Settling In" Theme week - 03.09.25 - 05.09.25  "Celebrating Differences" Theme week - 08.09.25 - 12.09.25	Bridgwater Fair Welly Walk/ Picnic (24.09.25) Christmas Decoration Day and parent crafting afternoon (05.12.25) Christmas Pantomime (09.12.25) Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch (11.12.25)
Assemblies	St Andrew's Day (30.11.25)	Church Assembly-Harvest Festival (08.10.25)
Sponsored Events	School Fundraising Event - Christmas Movie Night (17.12.25)	
Charity Events	Children in Need (15.11.25)	Non-uniform day - donating food to the foodbank (05.12.25)



# Humpty Dumpty



This term has been a busy and exciting one in the Humpty Dumpty Class! The children have been developing a range of early learning skills through fun, hands-on activities.

We've been focusing on recognising and tracing our names. The children have enjoyed practising their mark-making skills and gaining confidence with their letters.

Through playful activities, the children explored sorting by colour, shape, and size. This has helped build their early maths and categorisation skills in a meaningful way.



We celebrated Halloween with themed crafts and activities. The children loved exploring spooky sensory trays, decorating pumpkins, and taking part in imaginative play.

To celebrate the season, we created vibrant firework artwork. The children loved experimenting with colour and different painting techniques to make their pictures pop!

For Remembrance Day, the class made beautiful poppies using cupcake cases. This simple craft encouraged creativity and helped open up gentle conversations about remembering and showing respect.



# Jack and Jill



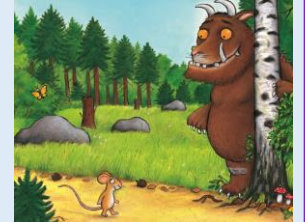
Jack and Jill Nursery have had a wonderful first term! The children have settled beautifully into our nursery routine and are really embracing all the exciting activities on offer. So far this term, we've been on a bear hunt, enjoyed an adventure to the park, and even taken a trip to the moon in our very own rocket!



Our new garden equipment has been a big hit too, providing plenty of opportunities for outdoor fun and exploration. We're looking forward to even more adventures next term!



# Gruffalo Class



Gruffalo Class have had an exciting Autumn Term! This term's topic question, "What do you want to be?", inspired the children to explore a wide range of occupations. Using our central text, *The Extraordinary Gardener*, they learned about the role of a gardener and were eager to take on this job in the home corner. Their curiosity naturally led to an exploration of farm life.



The children investigated farm animals, life cycles, habitats, and the similarities and differences within wildlife. They confidently used scientific vocabulary to describe changes and applied comparative language when discussing how farming has evolved over time.



In Forest School, the children represented farm life using natural materials and talked about how the seasons affect life on the farm. Throughout the term, they have been practising our listening focus - asking simple questions and speaking in complex sentences - and we have been delighted to see their communication skills and confidence grow.





# The Very Hungry Caterpillar Class



The children have settled into school with great enthusiasm and established new friendships. They have become familiar with daily routines and made a positive start with their learning journey. We are very proud of their achievements.

During the term, the children have made progress with their early reading skills through joining in with daily Phonics sessions. The class have focused on learning the Literacy Tree stories 'Billy and the Beast' and 'Cave Baby'. This has provided an opportunity for the children to learn about different story characters and events. It is wonderful to hear the children using new descriptive vocabulary when describing features and the actions of story characters.



The children have been interested in learning about a woodland habitat; finding out about nocturnal animals and their homes. The children took part in observational drawings of trees and naming the different parts e.g. trunk, bark, branches, leaves and roots. They really enjoyed exploring the colourful autumn leaves to create their own leaf characters and making autumn crowns.



# Snow Bears Class



Autumn term has been very special in Snow Bears class...our first whole term at school and what a busy and exciting term it has been! We have all settled into classroom routines and timetables excellently and the adults are so impressed at how much we have blossomed into independent learners.

In our phonic sessions we have learnt lots of sounds, tricky words and new vocabulary such as phoneme, digraph and blending! The children have worked so hard to secure their knowledge in this area and are now starting to read words all by themselves. Their first huge leaps into the wonderful world of reading!



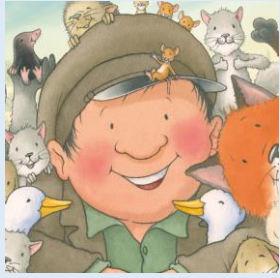
The children have loved our topic work. We have been looking at the different seasons and observing seasonal changes. The children really enjoyed going out onto the field and creating an observational drawing of a tree. We were very impressed at the quality and level of engagement that the children had with this activity.



Our writing work has been focussed around the story of 'I am Henry Finch.' We have made our own birds, drawn and labelled bird houses, wrote positive thoughts to pass on to Henry Finch and even designed our own motivational poster.



Forest school sessions have been a huge hit with the children exploring the new area, making leaf pictures, creating hibernation dens for animals and of course tasting the delicious hot chocolate at the end of the session!



# Percy the Park Keepers Class



The children have been busy exploring materials and their properties, investigating how the materials used to make toys have changed over time. They particularly enjoyed linking this to our history learning about Theodore Roosevelt and the development of early toys.



In Maths, we have been focusing on place value to twenty, using practical resources, games, and problem-solving activities to deepen understanding of numbers and their relationships. It has been a wonderfully busy and creative term!



In Literacy, the class has worked incredibly hard to write their own alien reports, as well as creating imaginative versions of the much-loved story Where the Wild Things Are.



# Stardust Class

This autumn term, Stardust Class has been wonderfully busy and full of enthusiasm for learning. The children have explored numbers to 20 through a range of engaging, hands-on activities, and they have shown great determination in improving their handwriting, practising regularly to develop neat, confident writing.

In Literacy, the class enjoyed learning two new stories before creating their own animal pamphlets and producing imaginative, innovated versions of Stanley's Stick. In P.E., they focused on developing key skills such as throwing and catching, while in their topic work they researched inspiring figures including Teddy Roosevelt and Edmund Hillary.



We finished the term on a festive high, proudly performing our nativity and taking part in a variety of Christmas crafts.



# Paddington Bear Class



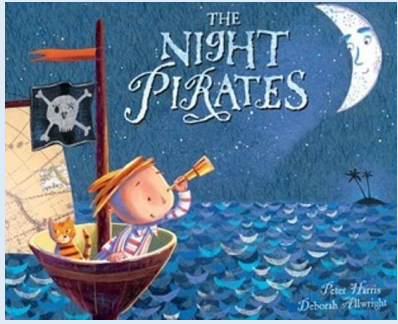
This term in Paddington Bear Class, we have enjoyed plenty of fun alongside some fantastic learning! The children worked incredibly hard to earn all of their class rewards, including a special extra playtime with Mrs Weatherburn. During this well-deserved treat, we played a range of games together using the parachute, which proved to be a real highlight for everyone.



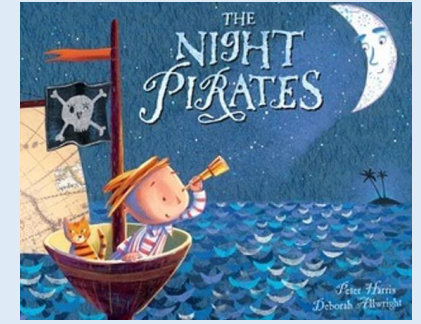
In Literacy, our story Last Stop on Market Street took us on an imaginative bus journey through London, where we explored famous landmarks and sights around the city. Our next story, Lubna and Pebble, inspired the children to create their own pebble friends and design cosy, safe beds to keep them comfortable.



In our foundation subject work, we have been celebrating local traditions - such as the carnival - by creating our own dance routines to some carnival classics! We also learned about Henry Ford and his contributions to engineering, and we produced vibrant artwork inspired by our focus artist, Kandinsky.



# Night Pirates Class



In Night Pirates, we have been discovering more about the wonderful world we live in. The children have explored a range of different countries, learning about their unique features and comparing them with life in the UK. This led to lots of thoughtful discussions about similarities and differences in landscapes, traditions, weather, and ways of living. We have also been learning about the seven continents and the five oceans, using songs, maps, and interactive activities to help us remember their names and locations. As we travelled "around the world," we explored the different climates - from the freezing Arctic to the warm, tropical rainforest - and discussed what makes each one special.



To deepen our understanding, we looked at which animals live in each climate and why they are suited to their habitats. The children particularly enjoyed matching animals to their environments and learning about the incredible adaptations that help them survive.



# Goodbye and Good Luck!

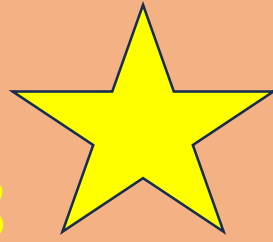


After 32 incredible years, Mrs White is retiring, leaving behind a remarkable legacy. From her early days in the classroom to her role as SENDCo, she has done it all with unwavering dedication and a smile on her face. Mrs White's hard work, kindness and caring nature have made her an extraordinary asset to the children and the whole school community. She will be deeply missed but her impact will be felt for years to come.





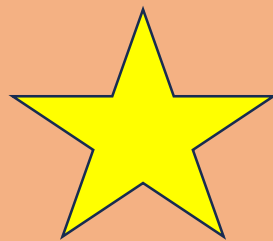
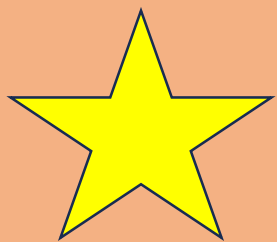
# Fundraising Achievements



We are incredibly thankful and proud of our fundraising achievements this term!

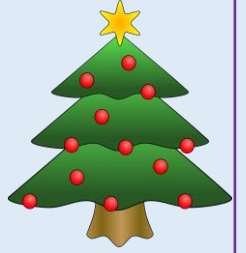
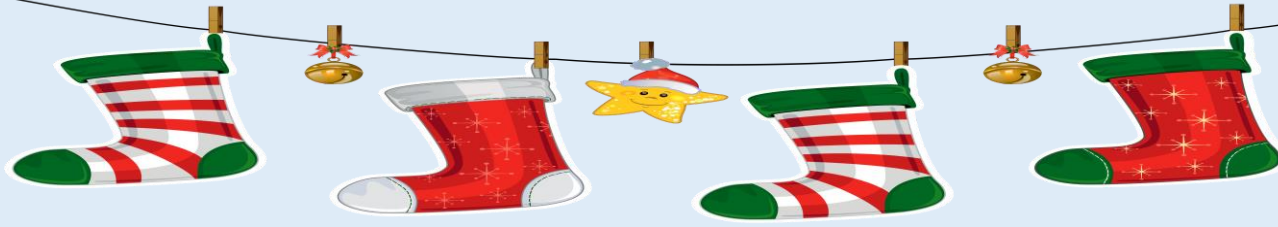
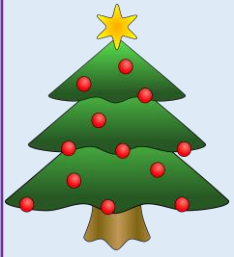
Event	Money Raised
Autumn Colours	£119.90
Children in Need	£158.37
Book Fair Sales Commission	£274.88
Christmas Card Commission	£101.67
Photograph Commission	£353.84

An amazing total of **£1008.66** was raised in the Autumn Term!



# Important Dates and Events Next Term

Date	Event
5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	School and nursery classes reopen
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Dress to Express Day
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	School and nursery closed for half term
5 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	World Book Day
16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Parents' Day - school and nursery classes closed for parents to meet individually with teachers
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Red Nose Day
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2026	Parent Crafting Afternoon
6 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	School and nursery classes closed for Easter break and Easter Monday



# All Things Christmas!

The children were busy with their Nativity rehearsals. From making headdresses, to learning lines and lyrics, they were very committed to putting on an incredible show!



They have really enjoyed the run up to Christmas. Each class had a visit from their very own cheeky elf!



Decorating the school and classrooms for Christmas has been so fun.



During their music lessons, the children practiced matching pitch and coordinating their actions to the beat in preparation for the Nativity Play.

Event	Date
Christmas crafting afternoon	5 <sup>th</sup> December
Nativity performance days in school	8 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> December
West End Theatre pantomime performance for children in school	9 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas lunch	11 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas jumper day	11 <sup>th</sup> December
Nativity performances day at the church	12 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas fun day	19 <sup>th</sup> December
Last day of term	19 <sup>th</sup> December
School and nursery closed for the Christmas holidays	22 <sup>nd</sup> December - 2 <sup>nd</sup> January



# Mental Health and Wellbeing



It is ok to feel happy, sad, angry or even a mix of a few different emotions. Don't forget...



All feelings are ok!



## Wellbeing at Christmas

While Christmas can be a joyful and magical time, it can also bring added pressure and stress. The expectation to create a perfect festive season, keep up with busy schedules, and manage everyone's needs can sometimes feel overwhelming. It's important to remember to look after your own wellbeing during this period. Simple steps such as being kind to yourself, taking breaks when needed, and not comparing your celebrations to others can make a big difference. Reaching out to friends, family, or someone you trust if you're finding things difficult is also really important. If you'd like more advice or support, the mental health charity Mind has put together a helpful guide full of practical tips for managing the festive season: **Wellbeing at Christmas – Mind**.



Over the year, the children will be following the Jigsaw scheme for PSHE. There are the units that we cover over the year:

Autumn A	Being Me in My World	Spring B	Healthy Me
Autumn B	Celebrating Difference	Summer A	Relationships
Spring A	Dreams and Goals	Summer B	Changing Me

## Tips for talking to your child about their mental health

Talking to your child about how they are feeling can be tough, especially if you are worried they are having a tricky time. Making conversations about mental health a normal part of life can be really helpful. You can do this by chatting whilst driving in the car, walking to school or talking about a TV character's feelings. Asking open questions such as "How did your day go today?" or "How are you feeling?" can keep the conversation going. Look for clues about your child's feelings in their body language and remember we are all different. As parents, our first instinct can be to try to reassure them that everything is fine and try to fix things as soon as possible!

Sometimes our children don't need solutions straight away, just empathy and someone to listen.

**If you have any worries about your child's wellbeing, please talk to us at school.**

## Thank You for Attending Our RSHE Workshop!

It was great to see so many of you getting involved. If you have any further questions, please feel free to ask!

Our school works closely with the **Mental Health Support Team (MHST)**, who provide early help, guidance, and practical strategies to support children's emotional wellbeing. The team offer advice for parents and carers, along with helpful resources for understanding and supporting children's mental health. If you would like further information or would find additional support useful, please explore the links below:

### Supporting Your Neurodiverse Child:

<https://padlet.com/angiewilson4/supporting-your-neurodiverse-child-wpuvp0leowuh5eg3>

### Parent/Carer Wellbeing Toolkit:

<https://padlet.com/SomersetMHST/parent-carer-wellbeing-toolkit-5mx7nlay6ba0ozlm>



PHONE: 01823 368 481

MAIL: MHSTadmin@somersetft.nhs.uk

SITE: bit.ly/mhstinfo



# Online Safety



**Congratulations** to the year 1 and year 2 pupils who have been selected to represent the school as digital leaders. They will be working alongside our online safety leader, Mrs Wynn, in the whole school effort to ensure that all students become happy, healthy digital citizens.

**Thank you** to all parents who came to our online safety workshop. Our children are growing up in a digital world and it has never been more important to ensure they are happy, safe and protected while exploring all the wonderful things the online world has to offer. If you were unable to attend, we hope the resources packs we sent home to each family have helped you to have some positive discussions with your children about technology and forming healthy habits.

**ACTIVE BYTES** Building habits when I use technology

I am kind and responsible   I am safe and secure   I am healthy

- Ask** Please let me ... I would like to ...
- Check** I can see you Can you see me?
- Share** Play with me Look what I can do
- Time** Is this the right time? Time to stop now Time to do something else
- Be Kind** I like that Please can I take your picture
- Tell** I don't like this This popped up Help me
- Move** I need to stretch and move around every 30 minutes
- Mix** What other things do I do? What else shall we do together?

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**EverydayDigital**  
ParentZone.org.uk's EverydayDigital is designed specifically for parents. EverydayDigital provides a comprehensive guide to understanding the digital world your children are growing up in. It offers expert advice on how to foster healthy online habits, understand online safety, and use technology positively. From managing screen time to addressing cyberbullying, this platform equips parents with knowledge and tools needed to navigate the digital world.

Visit: <https://parentzone.org.uk/EverydayDigital>

**Families with Technology**

**Precautionary Approach**  
balancing the benefits and negative effects from screens

**Screen free meal times**  
Face to face conversation and giving full attention

**No screens before bed**  
and leave screens outside the bedroom

**Take a Break**  
after two hours

**Advice and support**

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>
- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- [www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers)
- <https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents>
- <https://parentsafe.lgfl.net>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificial-intelligence-safety-tips-for-parents>

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH)

**Reporting concerns**

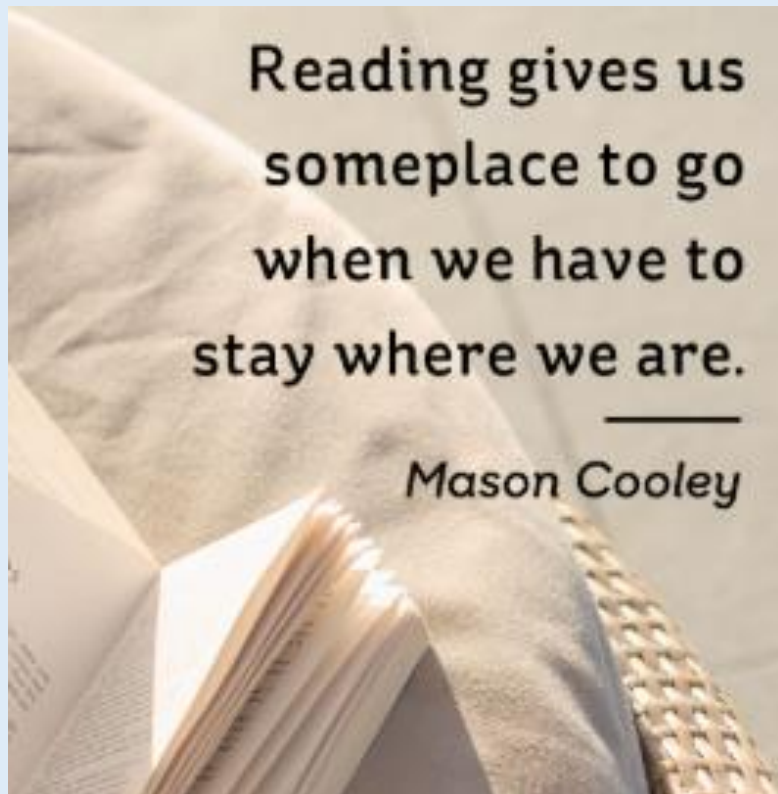
- <https://reportharmfulcontent.com>
- <https://www.iwf.org.uk/report>
- <https://www.childline.org.uk/report-remove>
- <https://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting>
- <https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support>

**Check PEGI ratings** [www.pegi.info](http://www.pegi.info)

3 7 12 16 18

'Focus on the quality of your child's screen time. How, where and why do your children use screen media? Does it support their interests and friendships?' Professor Sonia Livingstone

Thank you for continuing to support your child's learning by reading with them at home. Please continue to do this as it makes such a positive difference.



## The Magic of Reading for Young Minds

Reading with your child is more than a bedtime routine - it's a gift for life. Hearing your voice, seeing pictures and turning pages together builds language, sparks imagination and strengthens emotional bonds.

Even a few minutes a day can nurture curiosity, confidence and a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.

Pick up a book today and share the magic!



# Reminder...



## Starting School or Moving to Junior School in September 2026

If your child is due to start school or move up to a junior school next September, please apply for their school place on Somerset Council's website as follows:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/>

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2026. You may be asked to enter a Unique Identification Number (UID) when applying, but please note that Somerset Council does not use these, so you just need to choose the 'No UID' option.

# One Final Thing...

After the holidays, on the first day back to school, please remember to bring back:



PE Kit	Forest School Kit	Book Bag
Daps T-shirt Shorts Jogging bottoms	Wellies Waterproof trousers Waterproof coat	Reading book  Fruit and water is provided at school.

Important information and letters are sent home regularly by email. Please let us know if you do not have access and require paper copies. All information is also posted on our school website:

[www.hampnurseryandinfantschool.co.uk](http://www.hampnurseryandinfantschool.co.uk)

Look out for additional updates every Friday on Tapestry. There is an app that you can download.