



15 December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reception Weekly Information – w/b 15.12.25

Reception's First Christmas Songs

RB - Tuesday
RH - Wednesday
RP - Thursday

8.45am - 9.30am in the Hall.

A little job for the holidays!

Please check all of your child's name labels are intact and replace any over the holidays if needed.

End of term

School finishes early for all year groups on Friday 19 December
For Reception the collection times are:
East Gate – 12.40pm
West Gate – 12.45pm

Our Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open on Friday 9 January between 8.35am – 9.00am in the Club House. Please enter and exit via the South Gate. All items are priced at £1 each.

We would like to say a very big well done to every child in Reception. Can you believe their first day at Stamford Green was over 3 months ago? They have all worked exceptionally hard and have settled very well into school life. We are very proud of all their efforts this term and it has been a pleasure to see the progress they have already made in so many areas.

This week we are very excited to share Reception's First Christmas Songs with you! Thank you for sending in your child's Christmas jumper in preparation for this. We need all of them in school for our show so please send one in if you haven't already. Remember, it doesn't have to be a traditional Christmas jumper – it might be a top in a festive colour like red, green or sparkly. The children will have their Christmas jumpers returned home after their performances.

We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on the day of your child's performance. (This is a special opportunity, since most school Christmas performances are restricted to two adults per child.) They are really excited to sing to you! At the end we will arrange the children into a group so that you can take a photograph of them together.

Please help your child by talking to them about the performance and how you will come to watch but then you will be leaving so that they can return to class. Understandably some children may be a little sad when you leave, so if they are prepared for this it will be easier for them. We will look after them and we have lots of fun and learning planned for the rest of the day.

Over the Christmas break you may decide to clear out some of your child's old toys. In Reception we are looking for donations of small world people and buildings/settings (e.g. garage, castle, ship, etc). We are also on the lookout for some construction toys for inside. If you have something that you think we may be able put to good use please email Mrs Ball. parents@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk

After Christmas we will be taking a short break from Forest School but we will be keeping wellies in school as these are used in all our outdoor learning areas.

Learning Question of the week: How do different people celebrate Christmas?

This week we will talk about how people celebrate Christmas and what happens over the festive time with our families and find similarities between us by asking each other questions, e.g. Do you celebrate Christmas? Do you exchange gifts? What do you eat? Do you visit family? Are there any special traditions that your family follow each year? We will move on to think about how people celebrate in other countries, focusing on some particular traditions and replicating these in our art work.

From our Early Years curriculum the key skills we will focus on are:

- Write all the letters when I hear the sound.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
- Use scissors to cut in straight lines, either to cut out shapes or make fringes.
- Recognise and write numerals 0 – 10.
- Express preferences for particular stories.
- Use a pedal vehicle that doesn't require balance eg bike with stabilisers/trike etc.
- Use talk to work out problems or organise activities with others.
- Learn simple songs to be performed.
- Follow instructions with two parts without further prompting.

Phonics

Please continue to support your child with their reading during the holidays by sharing lots of stories at bedtime and continuing to practise the letter sounds from their packs.

It is really important that every child is confident with all of the letter sounds so that they are able to move forward with their reading in the spring term. Keep practising so that they know all the single letter sounds on sight.

Why not read some words together?

<https://tinyurl.com/mrxh785e>

<https://tinyurl.com/5n6psrj8>

Or learn about some 'special friends'



<https://tinyurl.com/598mkmwb>



<https://tinyurl.com/2p9zuscx>

Concept Word

This week's concept word is: **backwards**



Help at home: In a clear space, practise walking backwards. Use a toy doll or teddy. Walk it backwards and then ask, 'How is it walking?'

Reading

Some words we learn to read are called '**red**' words. These are words that are not decodable using our usual 'Fred Talk' method. We need to learn these by sight. We will be introducing new 'red' words each week and will put a sticker in your child's Learning Journal to let you know what they are. Please practice recognising these words at home. They are words that you will often see in books.

This week's red words to review are:

I, my, the, you, said

The Christmas holiday is a lovely time to cuddle up with a story together when it's a bit dark and cold outside.

Hearing and enjoying stories helps children to understand how stories work, and to hear and learn new words. This helps them become better readers themselves!

You could share some old favourites, or if you have family and friends visiting, your child might like to share a story with them.

If you're looking for something festive to enjoy, [CBeebies Bedtime Stories](#) has a lovely selection of Christmas stories – and you don't have to wait until bedtime to snuggle up and watch them!

Maths

We will also be reviewing some of our learning from this term. Remember to count EVERYTHING and enjoy spotting 'maths' everywhere you go, e.g.

- Look for shapes in the natural environment.
- Spot patterns on Christmas jumpers.
- Sort toys by colour and size.
- Measure teddies to find out which is the tallest.
- Compare amounts of item.
- Share sweets equally.

Show and Tell: Families

No Show and Tell this week. If your child missed their show and tell, they are welcome to do it this week.

And the Grinch,
with his grinch-feet
ice-cold in the snow,
Stood puzzling and puzzling;
"How could it be so?"
"It came without ribbons!
It came without tags!"
"It came without packages,
boxes or bags!"
And he puzzled three hours,
till his puzzler was sore.
Then the Grinch thought
of something he hadn't before!
"Maybe Christmas, he thought,
doesn't come from a store."
"Maybe Christmas . . . perhaps
. . . means a little bit more!"

RP will be saying farewell to Miss Poole at the end of this week as she begins her maternity leave. We'll all be looking forward to hearing news of her 'special delivery' in the new year and we wish her lots of love and luck as she becomes a mummy!

Finally, we would like to wish all the Reception children and their families a very safe and happy holiday. Whether you are celebrating Christmas or Hanukah, or just enjoying the opportunity for some lovely family time, we hope that you will have a relaxing and fun holiday from school. We look forward to seeing all the children well-rested and full of their usual enthusiasm for learning in January.

We hope you have a lovely week,

Mrs Ball, Miss Poole and Mrs Price
YR Class Teachers