

Minnow Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026



Welcome to the new year at North Curry Primary School and to Minnow Class. The purpose of the class newsletter is to provide important information about arrangements in Minnows and to share what we will be doing during the term. Keep an eye out for important notices and reminders on MCAS and in-class updates on Famly.



Our topics this term:

Me and My Community



In the Me and My Community project, your child will learn about the school community and building friendships. They will explore the school grounds and find out about all the people in school who are there to help them. They will explore how they are special and unique and how everyone's family is different. They will take part in practical activities to support them to build new friendships and explore what makes a good friend. They will also find out about people in the community who help us, including doctors, nurses, and the emergency services.

Once Upon a Time



In the Once Upon a Time project, your child will be introduced to the wonderful world of stories. They will listen to a range of traditional tales and have the chance to act out the stories in their play. They will also listen to alternative contemporary stories to see different viewpoints from the characters. They will use the stories to think about how life has changed from when the stories were written. They will also make up their own stories and make masks, props and puppets to act out their stories.

CURRICULUM AREAS

Maths: White Rose Maths Scheme Reception: Getting to know you activities, match sort and compare, measure and patterns, representing, subitising, 1 more, 1 less, composition of numbers and shape.

Literacy/English: stories with familiar settings, traditional stories, books without text for imaginative discussion, non-fiction texts and fantasy stories.

Stories including: Once There Were Giants, Lost and Found, non-fiction information texts (based on people who help us), recipes and traditional tales.

Expressive Arts and Design: Creating with materials, being imaginative and expressive, self-portraits using a variety of media, songs and instruments, imaginative play and story improvisation using small world equipment.

Religious and World Education (RWE): learning about special me, special times (harvest and Christmas) and stories. We will visit the Church for the Harvest service.

PSED: Me and My Relationships and Valuing Difference.

Understanding the World: Past and present, People culture and communities, the natural world. We will be exploring our local area through walking outside of school, will learn about different families and homes, people who help us and the season of Autumn.

Communication and Language: Listening, attention and understanding, speaking. We will begin the year with regular circle time sessions to learn important skills in these areas.

Physical Development: gross and fine motor skills. P.E lessons on Mondays. Please ensure that everything in your child's PE kit is clearly labelled. Wherever possible, P.E will take place outside so please ensure that your child has suitable clothing.

Phonics:

Phonics will take place every day as a structured lesson, beginning with 10-minute sessions and gradually increasing through the year. Children will be introduced to the first set of Read, Write, Inc (RWI) sounds. Your child might be familiar with some sounds, if they have been exposed to them at a nursery level. Please do not worry as we work systematically through the scheme and the lessons are tailored to be delivered, revisited and recapped frequently. As well as learning the phoneme, the children will now also learn the grapheme.

We will provide a phonics sounds key ring in your child's book bag for you to use at home to consolidate what we are learning in class. I will send RWI videos with QR codes on Family for you to watch at home with your child and support their progress. We quickly progress through the sounds so revisiting them at home will help your child to maintain progress.



Wellies/Waterproofs

Outdoor learning will take place every day and we will also go on welly walks to learn about the seasonal changes that happen in autumn. We will take part in practical and creative activities that will support children to learn about the season of autumn.

It would be helpful if children had their own named pair of wellies that stay in school for these occasions and for playing outside the classroom with the water. A pair of waterproof trousers would also help ensure that children stay clean and dry during the school day.

I will be in touch with dates of off-site welly walks soon. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with walking and crossing the roads so if you are able to help us, please get in touch. Thank you.



Bookbags

Your child will be given 2 books in their bookbag very soon. These will begin as wordless books which can be shared at home. These sharing books are books to read for pleasure at home as your child might not be able to read it independently yet. As your child learns their sounds and starts to blend them together (cvc words such as d-i-g, dig), they will be given a RWI sound blending book to practise at home too. Please make sure that your child brings their bookbag into school every day. We encourage you to listen to your child re-read their book/s to build fluency and speed.



Yellow Reading Logs

In your child's book bag will be a yellow reading record log. Please record when your child has read their book/s at home. If your child has not read the book/s they will not be changed. Books are changed on Fridays.

As a school, we monitor how often children are reading at home and those who read 5 times a week receive a golden ticket and are entered into a class prize draw to win a book token to spend in the library vending machine.



Pop Up Visit

We are looking forward to a visit from the Pop Up Play Village this half term in October. Please keep an eye on MCAS and Family for more information.



Nativity

This year our Nativity play will be taking place on Tuesday 8th December at 2.00 and 6.00pm. Details including parts and costumes to follow.



If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to speak to me directly at pick up at the gate by the classroom or email the school office on office@nc.huish.education and they will pass it onto me.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Taylor