

Mice Class Newsletter

Friday 9th January 2026



What have the Mice been up to this week?

Literacy

This week our class text has been 'The Gigantic Turnip' by Aleksei Tolstoy. We sequenced the events in the story to create a story map, then retold the story, using new vocabulary we had learnt such as 'gigantic', 'enormous', 'heaved', 'tugged', 'yanked' and 'budge'. We also drew pictures of our favourite part.

Maths

In maths this week we have been focusing on the number zero. We looked at where it is positioned on a number line and discussed the value of this number. We have practised counting back to zero and sorting pictures which show zero and 'not' zero. We also went on a zero hunt!

Phonics

In phonics this week, we have learnt the sounds 'ai' (our rhyme is 'tail in the rain'), 'ee' (sheep in a jeep), 'igh' (light in the night) and 'oa' (soap that goat). We practised sounding and blending words that contained these sounds and segmented to spell words with these sounds in them. We learnt that 'igh' is a trigraph as it has **three** letters that make **one** sound.

Our Core Concept this term is... Perception and Empathy

Other learning this week...

In busy time this week (child-initiated learning), we have enjoyed creating pictures with the tap-a-shape, threading with the wooden beads, we have created some wonderful pictures with the stencils and stickers in the writing area and we have had great fun role playing as pet cats and dogs 😊 This was completely child-led and it was wonderful to watch the children so engaged in their play and having fun! Our favourite activity this week though was definitely playing in the snow and exploring the ice in the garden. We were so excited to find ice which had frozen inside of objects like tyres, buckets and boxes to form perfect circles and rectangles!

Celebrations



For our '**Work on the Wall**' this week, we are celebrating **Robyn**, as she created the most amazing drawings to represent her favourite part in 'The Gigantic Turnip' story. Robyn you are a very talented little artist and I can imagine seeing your illustrations printed in story books one day! You have an eye for detail and take great care and pride in your work. Well done Robyn!

Our **Headteacher's Award** is for **Rafferty** this week as he has demonstrated our school value of compassion. He has been wonderful at sharing and turn-taking and he has also been so helpful in the classroom, especially at tidy up time! Thank you Rafferty! Keep it up!

Important Messages

Our outdoor learning day is now 'Welly Wednesdays'. Please can the children have a spare set of old, warm clothes which you don't mind them getting muddy and wet, sent in every Wednesday. Also, a pair of wellies and waterproofs to be sent into school, if you haven't done so already, as we access the outdoor learning environment every day, in almost all weathers! Thank you so much!

It has been a pleasure meeting all of the Mice parents this week. Thank you for making me feel so welcome! Mrs O x