

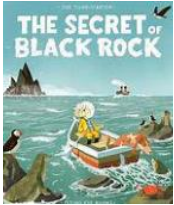
## Hedgehog Class Summer Term 1 April 2026

Dear Hedgehog Families,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed some time together.



We are looking forward to a busy and exciting half term in Hedgehog Class! Much of the children's learning will be shared on the **Tapestry App**, so please do keep checking for updates and photos. We love seeing your comments and hearing about learning from home. If you need any help accessing Tapestry, please do let us know.



Our learning this half term is based on the story ***The Secret of Black Rock* by Joe Todd-Stanton**. This beautifully illustrated book explores curiosity, bravery and discovering the unknown. The story will inspire lots of talking, storytelling, drawing and writing.

A big focus will be on developing their **early reading and writing skills**, helping them to write independently using the sounds they know and correct letter formation.

In Hedgehogs we focus on the Early Learning Goals as well as the year 1 curriculum. Our learning is organised to reflect this.

### Phonics:

The children will continue to take part in **daily phonics sessions**. Thank you for supporting your child by listening to them read at home – this really makes a huge difference. Reading books are carefully matched to the sounds your child has already learned.

### Maths and number

In Reception, children will be **consolidating their counting skills**, counting on to larger numbers and using a wider range of counting strategies. They will practise recognising numbers, matching numbers to quantities and developing confidence with number facts through lots of hands-on and playful activities.

Year 1 continue with the **White Rose Maths** scheme. They will build their confidence with numbers through practical activities, **making equal groups and sharing**, and counting in **2s, 5s and 10s** using objects and pictures.

They will begin to learn about **fractions**, finding **halves and quarters** of shapes and small amounts

Throughout their learning, children will be encouraged to talk about their ideas and explain how they have worked things out.



### Communication and Language (CL)

We will be helping the children to listen and pay attention through our activities. We will focus on understanding what is said, and using full sentences to talk about ideas and experiences.

### Understanding the world

#### The Natural World

We will be learning about plants, including garden and wild plants. We will explore and name parts of a plant, and begin to notice the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.



#### People, Culture and Communities

We will talk about similarities and differences between families, traditions and communities in this country, using stories and the children's own experiences.

#### Past and Present

The children will learn about adventures through time, including powerful people such as Kings and Queens, and how transport has changed.

#### Forest School

Forest School sessions will continue **every Friday**. Hedgehog Class usually has the first session, so please send your child to school **ready to go outside** after registration. Children should wear old clothes suitable for the weather, and on sunny days, a sun hat. Please also send **welly boots** for them to change into (we do have some spare pairs if needed).

#### Physical Development

During the term we will be giving the children opportunities to move confidently and will focus on helping them control small tools such as pencils, scissors and cutlery, building their coordination and strength.

PE will continue with **Mr Reeve every Wednesday**. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their **PE kit** on this day

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

We focus on **understanding our feelings**, managing ourselves, trying new activities, and playing cooperatively with others.

This includes taking turns and sharing. following simple rules, building positive relationships and showing confidence when trying new activities.

### **Computing**

Year 1 children will begin using **keyboards** to explore digital writing in a child-friendly and practical way.



### **Expressive Arts and Designs**

The children will be creating with a range of materials, with a focus on **drawing, lines and shapes**. They will explore colour, texture and form, talk about their creations and share how they made them.



We will also be singing lots of **familiar nursery rhymes and songs** together.

***Please remember that named water bottles, book bags, reading books and records, and rain coats are needed in school every day.***

***Now the weather is getting warmer your child will need to have a named sun hat or cap in school every day. We also ask that children come in with sunscreen already applied on sunny days. Most suncreams are now effective for the whole school day. A named tube of sunscreen can be brought into school, but your child will need to be able to apply this for themselves. We will obviously support them if necessary but are unable to apply cream for every child.***

***If you have any questions, please do ask a member of the Hedgehog Class team, thank you!***

***We look forward to working with you.***

***Mrs Foster, Mrs Cott and the rest of the Hedgehog team***