Foundation Stage Two Newsletter
Spring Term Two 2026

Welcome back after half term break. We hope your children had an enjoyable break and are eager to come back to school and share all of their exciting news. If you have any general questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff on the gate. If you are unable to see us at this time, please feel free to ring the school and make an appointment (either for a longer face to face appointment or a telephone response). The school telephone number is 01332 840395 or email earlyyears@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk

Reading Books

Our books are changed every three days. We listen to your child read every day during our phonics lessons. Frequent practise is the key to successful early reading and it will benefit your child greatly if you can hear your child read at home, ideally on a daily basis. Please also record in your child's reading record that you have heard them read. Thank-you for your continued support with this.

Please also remember reception library day is a **Friday.** We always ensure library books are returned before being issued a new one.

Toys/Jewellery: A polite reminder

Whilst we enjoy hearing about what your child does outside of school, please refrain from sending in toys or objects (i.e., watches) from home as we are a busy environment and things may get lost. If your child has specifically achieved or done something out of school, we would love you to share this in their reading logs.
Please also note that we do not allow children to wear nail varnish or lip balm in school.

Clothing:

Please can you ensure that you send your child to school with appropriate indoor and outdoor clothing. We will still be accessing our outdoor learning space and the mud kitchen area daily. Therefore, it is imperative that all children bring a waterproof coat. Please ensure that all items of your child's clothing/ belongings are **labelled clearly with their name**. Please remember to include water bottles too when you are naming items as we often find that popular designs will be owned by several different children. Please make sure that you only put water into these bottles and place them on the white shelf where the coat pegs are.
Please note that the snack table will be set up throughout the day with fruit and water.

Our theme this term is '***All things Bright and Beautiful***', We will be thinking about Spring and Summer, changes and new life that begin to develop during this time. We will be looking at weather, seasons, life cycles and mini beasts.

Week 1:'Seasons' – with a focus on spring and summer

During our first week, we will be thinking about the four seasons, what a season is and how we can identify them. We will look at signs of spring and summer around our garden area. In art, we will look at pointillism and incorporate that within our spring and summer theme. An exciting delivery of caterpillars will entice the children into a real-life experience of watching a life cycle unfold.

Week 2: 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'

This week is all about the lifecycle of a butterfly. The children will continue to care for the caterpillars in our classroom and once they are butterflies, we will release them into our garden. Our focus book this week will be 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children will learn and perform a poem called 'Creepy Crawlies'. In Art we will be thinking about the author and illustrator Eric Carle and using his collage techniques to create our own gallery of artwork.

Caterpillars arrive this week from Insect Lore.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

Week 3:'New life'

Our focus this week will be 'new life'. We will continue looking at spotting the signs of spring and the new life that will be coming out in time for Spring. This week we will have our chick eggs delivered to school. We will care for our eggs in hope they hatch into chicks and look at the lifecycle of a chick.

Parents Evening – Thursday 12th March

Chicks arrive this week from The Happy Egg Company.

Week 4: 'Pond Life'

The children will learn about animals that live in and around ponds. We will observe the frogspawn that will be in our investigation area and learn about the life cycle of a frog. We will also talk about keeping safe near ponds and rivers. The children will begin to look at non-fiction texts and their features and write a simple fact file.

This week, we will also visit Bluebell Dairy to learn about new life on the farm, such as lambs, chicks etc.

Parents Evening – Tuesday 17th March

Bluebell Dairy – Wednesday 18th March

Week 5: 'Flower Power'

During this week we will be looking at the lifecycle of a flower. We will think about the plants, trees and flowers we have in our garden and look at the features. The children will take part in an experiment where they can see how the flower gets its nutrients. In art, we will begin to create some observational drawings of flowers and plants.

Easter Church Service – Wednesday 25th March

School closes for the Easter Break – Friday 27th March 2026

Return to school Monday 13th April 2026