Townlands C of E Primary Academy

"A journey of learning in the light of God's love"

Faith, Honesty, Love, Friendship, Forgiveness, Hope, Respect

"What shall we say the Kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade."

The parable of the Mustard seed- Mark 4:30-32

EYFS Autumn Term 2026 Second Half term

STAFF: Mrs Peel, Mrs Bramley, Miss Howard and Mr Duane

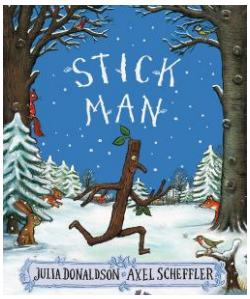
We are delighted with how well the children have settled into their new routines and embraced the start of the term. We look forward to seeing the progress they make over the coming half term and all that they will achieve.

We will continue to focus on building new friendships and promoting good manners. Through Tapestry, children will have regular opportunities to share their homework and significant events from home, supporting the development of their speaking, listening and communication skills.

This half term is all about exploring the woodland area and the different creatures that might be discovered there. Our themes will be 'I wonder which animals I will find in the woods?' and 'What is special about Christmas'.

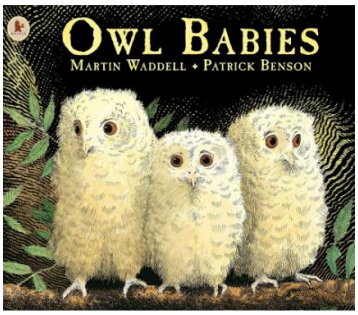
As part of this theme, the children will explore Night and Day, discovering how the world changes from day to night. They will learn about light and darkness and take a closer look at a range of fascinating nocturnal animals. Our learning will be supported by the focus texts Stick Man and Owl Babies.

Books we will be using to enhance our learning and love of reading.



Stick Man by Julia Donaldson

'Stick Man lives in the family tree with his Stick Lady Love and their stick children three…' But the world is a dangerous place for a Stick Man. A dog wants to play with him. A swan builds her nest with him. He even ends up on a fire! Will he ever get back to the family tree?



Owl Babies by Martin Waddell

Owl Babies is a comforting read for any child who has ever worried about mum leaving them alone for the very first time. The baby owls: Sarah, Percy and Bill wake one night to find their mother gone. The darkness gathers and they perch patiently on their branch waiting for her return, full of worries.

Homework and Reading

Last half term, we began sending home a phonics reading book matched to your child's current phonics stage. We encourage children to read these books independently where possible, although your support and encouragement are invaluable as they develop their early reading skills. We ask that children read with you **at least five times each week** and talk about what they have read to help develop their understanding and comprehension. Please record each reading session in your child's reading record. Regular reading will help establish positive habits and allow children to earn rewards along the way.

There are two parts to homework in EYFS. Firstly, your child will bring home one handwriting sheet to complete over the course of the week. This will be a sound that they have already learnt about in their phonics lessons. The second part of the homework will be shared on Tapestry/Website (along with a paper copy). There will be a number of engaging homework options for your child to complete with your support across the remainder of the half term. The expectation is for one piece of homework to be completed and uploaded to tapestry (or brought in to show) each week.

PE

P.E sessions continue with our sports coach, Mr Moon and take place every Friday. The children need to attend school on Fridays wearing their P.E. kits. They will need to be wearing kit which is suitable for indoor P.E. and outdoor learning as well as playtimes.

Please ensure that your child's name is written inside all clothing items brought into school.

Health & Safety reminder

All long hair must be tied back on Mondays and no jewellery is permitted during PE lessons. However, if earrings cannot be removed, then they need taping over.

Water

The children need to continue to bring to school fresh **water** (not juice) each day in a labelled bottle. Hydration throughout the day is important and this is the most convenient way for your child to access water whenever they feel thirsty. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 27th October – School photographs
Friday 6th November - Flu Immunisations
Thursday 26th November – School Christmas Fair. Starting at 2:30pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 8th December – EYFS Nativity (Morning but time TBC)
Wednesday 9th December – EYFS Nativity (Morning but time TBC)
Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Pantomime

Keep checking Tapestry to share in your child's learning experiences. Whole school information and activities can be found on the Townlands website. If you have any queries or questions at any time, then please feel free to **phone** or **email** the school office.

Finally, keep an eye on Townland's Facebook page for the latest updates and successes.