

# Welcome to Reception with Miss Lock and Miss Cartwright January-February 2026

Welcome back and happy new year! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful break.



What a busy half term we had running up to the Christmas! We really enjoyed learning about different 'Celebrations'. We read fiction and non-fiction texts about the Hindu festival Diwali, we also learnt why 'Remembrance Day' is marked each year. We discovered key facts about Bonfire night and how it is celebrated and enjoyed learning about what happens on a birthday, before finally learning about why Christians celebrate Christmas. We hope you enjoyed our Christmas performance, and I think you'll agree that all the children worked so hard and did so well learning their speaking parts and the songs!

It has been so wonderful to see so many of you at the workshops that have taken place so far this year, Phonics and our stay and play sessions! We hope this has helped you in understanding the way we teach reading and writing through our phonics scheme ReadWriteInc and how you can support at home. We will be holding a Maths workshop in the coming weeks and we will notify you of this on Class Dojo.



This half term our theme will be '**Winter**'. We will be learning about signs of the season 'Winter' and how it compares to the season of Autumn. We will learn about the animals you may see and those you may not, due to 'Hibernation'. We will be learning lots of information about these animals using our non-fiction books to help us. We will also be exploring the weather outside during Winter.

To support our learning, we will be reading a range of books such as Julia Donaldson's 'Stickman' and the non-fiction book 'What Can You See in Winter?'.

## **Reading & Phonics:**

During the Autumn term in Reception, we began the 'Talk for Writing' approach to support children in their early speaking and writing skills. Talk for Writing helps children become confident writers by hearing and re telling stories verbally with actions and repetition. We will continue to use this approach with our first model text of the Spring term - 'Stick Man'. This will then lead into our non-fiction learning about 'winter' where we will learn lots of facts and information. We will be using the skills we have learnt in phonics to listen for sounds in words and to write labels, captions and short sentences.

This term, the children continue to follow the Read, Write, Inc Phonics scheme. As well as learning new sounds, they will recap the sounds they have already learnt to become confident when blending them together to read words.



## **Maths:**

In maths we will continue to build our understanding of numbers to up to 10. The children become more confident to explore how each number is made up of smaller numbers. Using songs and games, we will also learn about the importance of zero. We will be continuing to develop our subitising skills. This half term we will also look at odd and even numbers, 2d shapes and revisit repeating patterns.



As you are aware, at Little London we use Tapestry and Class Dojo to share your child's learning with you. We post some helpful videos and messages that will support your child with their learning at home. Don't forget to 'like' the posts we share with you to help us see you have read it!



We aim to keep you up to date with upcoming events and to tell you about ways you may be able to support your child's learning at home.

Could we please ask that you label your child's clothing, we want to make sure that uniform stays with the right people. We ask that this includes coats and shoes as we will be accessing our amazing outside area in all weathers and might need to wear our wellies sometimes if it's wet. If your child needs to borrow clothes from school can we please ask that these clothes are washed and returned to school promptly. Thank you for your support with this.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to talk to us at the end of the day or get in touch on ClassDojo messenger.

***Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing your child continue to thrive at Little London Academy.***

Many thanks,

Miss Cartwright & Miss Lock

#### **Important Dates:**

Monday 5th January – Return to school

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Break up for half term holiday



#### **Things you can do to help:**

- Reading bedtime stories at home, if you don't have any story books to read to your child please come and see us and we can help with this.
- Talking with them as you walk to and from school and visit places.
- Looking at Tapestry regularly, as we will be sharing what we have been learning in class and how you can help at home.
- Take any opportunity to count everyday objects with your child and point out different numbers in the environment to help with their number recognition.

