Redfield Educate Together

November 2026
Term 2
Year 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope you all had a wonderful break and are feeling refreshed for the busy and exciting weeks ahead. This term, we are looking forward to welcoming a Toys from the Past box into the classroom, giving the children a chance to explore and talk about how toys have changed over the years. We are also very excited to begin rehearsals for our Nativity performance, it is always a real highlight of the year, and we can't wait to see the children grow in confidence as they learn their songs. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

This term our school value is 'Compassion' and question for the term is how can we show kindness and understanding to people who are different from us?

Please see below the timetable for the class to see who will be teaching when.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Learning Support Worker (LSW)
Giraffe Class	Gemma 	Gemma 	AM Gemma  PM Hannah 	Hannah 	Hannah 	Aisha

Learning this term:

This term in English, we will be exploring two wonderful core texts, *Billy and the Beast* by Nadia Shireen and *Traction Man* by Mini Grey, which will inspire our reading, writing and creative learning. In Design and Technology, the children will design and make their own toy using recycled materials, incorporating either a lever or a slider mechanism. In History, we are looking forward to borrowing a Toys from the Past box, which will help us learn about and compare toys from different periods of time. In PSHE with will be celebrating our difference, thinking about how to be a good friend and celebrating our similarities and differences.

In PE this term we will be doing team building during our outside lessons on Mondays and we will return to having our lessons inside on a Wednesday, focussing on gymnastics.

Reading Books

Each Thursday, your child will have their phonics book changed. Please continue to write in their reading record when you read with them. Our Phonics scheme – Unlocking Letters and Sounds – recommends changing books only once per week so that your child repeats reading a familiar book to build their confidence with their new sound. In class, the children have guided reading lessons in groups reading a more challenging book level. These will appear in your child's reading record with the stamp 'I have read with an adult today'. Any additional reading will be written or stamped in.

Phonics books: This book will be carefully selected to align with your child's phonic knowledge. They will have a week to immerse themselves in the text, secure their phonics skills, enhance fluency, grasp the narrative, and expand their vocabulary.

Reading for Pleasure books: We of course encourage enjoying a whole range of books at home together alongside an adult or sibling. Children flourish when engaged in shared reading experiences with adults or older siblings, as they delve into captivating stories and uncover new vocabulary. Additionally, these interactions enable them to recognise familiar sounds and conquer challenging words. Exposing your child to the joy of reading through familial bonding moments fosters a genuine passion for literature. We will visit our school library every Thursday afternoon and the children will be able to select a book for our classroom library box.

Home time

Please avoid coming into the classrooms at the end of the day as if there are lots of adults around the doorway/classroom it can become tricky to know the whereabouts of the children. We want to keep everyone safe at all times right until they are in the safe hands of their adult. Of course, if you need to come in, please speak to the teacher at the door.

General information:



Children should not be bringing in any toys/teddies/colouring books in from home. This causes upset if they go missing or are unable to play with them during lesson time. *This does not apply if you have an arrangement with a teacher to support a child's regulation.*

As the weather cools down, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We are an all-weather school, this means we will only come inside during extreme downpours, so please make sure your child has appropriate clothing with them. Coats and wellies are welcome to be left hanging on their pegs.

Communication:

- Class Dojo is the easiest way to contact us, and we can call you back if you send a message. We aim to reply to class dojo messages within 3 working days.
- Please don't use class dojo for emergency messages as we cannot check them while teaching or in meetings. Continue to call the office for emergency messages.
- A member of the Year 1 team will be available at the class door at 3.10pm every day. We are happy to catch up for an informal chat then and can arrange a meeting for longer conversations – we will aim to arrange meetings within a week.
- We will send out all school messages through class dojo, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble accessing your account. We will also update class dojo with news about our learning in class and photos of the children's work.
- The school website will be updated termly to share topic maps, spelling lists and any additional resources that can support learning at home.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 14th December – 9.30 – 10.00am Wednesday 16th December – 2.30 – 3.00pm	Nativity

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Hannah and Gemma

