



TREEHOUSE

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed some special time with family and friends.

We are excited to begin the spring term and can't wait to have your children back in the Treehouse.

It's going to be a fantastic term filled with learning, growth, and fun activities.

TOPIC HALF TERM ONE

		<p>This half term our topic is Dinosaurs</p> <p>The children will be exploring this topic through fun, hands-on activities that help them learn more about fossils and different kinds of dinosaurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Reading the book <i>Dinosaur Roar!</i>✓ Exploring different non-fiction texts to create our own fact files about dinosaurs.✓ Learning new vocabulary about dinosaurs using signs, symbols, or voice. <p>Some of the things we will be doing include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Using dough and clay to make dinosaur models✓ Creating a volcano

TOPIC HALF TERM TWO

<p>This half term our topic is Plant Growth</p> <p>The children will be exploring this topic through fun, hands-on activities that help them learn more about themselves and each other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Reading <i>The Tiny Seed</i> by Eric Carle✓ Planting our own seeds to make fun things to eat <p>Some of the things we will be doing include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Working with Tracy in the polytunnel✓ Creating art work through vegetable printing✓ Tasting delicious vegetables from Bulwell market		

WORD OF THE WEEK

	<p>Every child learns differently.</p> <p>Some children, especially those with Autism, may not use phonics to sound out words. Instead, they often learn by recognising whole words or phrases, which helps them develop speech and understanding.</p> <p>In the Treehouse, we support this with our 'Word of the Week'.</p> <p>Children take part in daily activities to explore the word, helping build their vocabulary. You'll see a copy of the word come home each week, feel free to use it together!</p> <p>If you'd like tips on using the word at home, just ask a member of the Treehouse team, we're happy to help.</p>
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SENSORY LEARNING

<p>Sensory Learning in the Treehouse</p> <p>In the Treehouse, we love using sensory learning to make every day exciting and meaningful for your child. This means giving them lots of opportunities to explore through touch, sound, sight, taste, and movement. Whether it's feeling different textures, listening to calming sounds, or getting hands-on with fun activities, these experiences help children learn about the world in a way that feels safe and enjoyable. Sensory learning also supports important skills like communication, confidence, and independence, while making learning fun and engaging.</p>	
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SENSORY CIRCUITS AND PE

Did you know...exercise makes your brain function better?



We are excited to continue sensory circuits as part of our weekly routine.

A sensory circuit is a short set of fun activities that help children feel calm, focused, and ready to learn. It usually lasts about 10 minutes and includes:

- **Wake Up** – Big movements like jumping or bouncing to get the body moving.
- **Organise** – Activities like balancing or crawling to help with thinking and planning.
- **Calm Down** – Gentle stretches or breathing to settle and relax.

These circuits support concentration, confidence, and smooth transitions into the school day.

This will take place on **Thursdays** will be led by Mr Kiggins.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR

This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar, we will be learning about:

- World Braille Day
- Martin Luther King Jr Day
- Children's Mental Health Week
- Lunar New Year
- Start of Ramadan (Islam)
- Start of Lent (Christianity)
- St David's Day (Wales)
- Holi (Hindu and Sikh)
- International Women's Day
- St Patrick's Day (Ireland)
- Eid-al-Fitr (Islam)
- World Autism Day
- Easter Sunday (Christianity)



ONLINE ACTIVITIES & SAFETY TIPS



Use Guided Access on the iPad to keep your child focused on one app. This stops them from accidentally leaving the app and helps create a calm, structured experience.

Set clear time limits for iPad use and use a visual timer so your child knows when it's time to stop. This helps make transitions easier and reduces stress.

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES



We'd like to remind all parents and carers that our door is always open for any concerns or questions you may have regarding your child's development or support needs.

Whether you have specific queries or simply want to have a chat, please feel free to reach out to us.

A CELEBRATION OF OUR LEARNING LAST TERM



Looking back at last half term, we've had some wonderful experiences together.

One of the highlights was our Christmas Stay and Play, where families joined us for festive fun and the children were excited to meet Santa!

We also enjoyed getting creative outdoors by making beautiful firework pictures using paint and glitter. After reading *The Little Red Hen*, the children loved making their own bread, and tasting it too!

It's been a fantastic term full of learning, creativity, and special moments.

Thank you to all our parents for your support and involvement. It makes such a difference and helps create these wonderful experiences for the children.



TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

- Visiting Bulwell Market to buy some vegetables**
Children will take part in a real-life shopping experience at Bulwell Market, choosing and buying fresh vegetables. This helps build independence, communication, and confidence.
- Working with Tracy in the polytunnel**
As part of our learning about growing and healthy eating, children will work alongside Tracy in the polytunnel. They will explore planting, caring for vegetables, and understanding where food comes from in a hands-on, sensory-rich way.



DIARY DATES

	HALF TERM ONE	HALF TERM TWO
	05/01/2026 – Start of spring 1 02-06/02/2026 – Wellbeing Week 06/02/2026 – NSPCC Number Day 10/02/2026 – Safer Internet Day 13/02/2026 – Last day of spring 1	23/02/2026 – Start of spring 2 05/03/2026 – World Book Day 09-13/03/2026 – British Science Week 18/03/2026 – Parents/Carers Evening 23/03/2026 – Spring Disco (F1-Y2 4-5pm) 27/03/2026 – Last day of spring 2 13/04/2026 – First day of summer term