

## Weekly Learning Letter

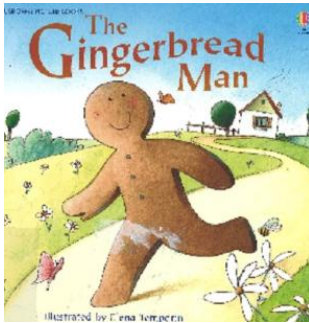
**Friday 21st November 2025**

### This week in Reception:

This week we started to learn the story of **'The Gingerbread Man'**.

We have talked about:

- What we already knew about this story
- The characters
- The different versions of the story
- The type of story it is



To help us learn the story we have been learning it in the style of Talk4Writing. This means that the children learn actions to help them with common story language such as, 'Once Upon a Time'. Next week we will make a class story map and then the children will create their own story maps for 'The Gingerbread Man.'

### Big Foot Theatre Company

We had some very exciting visitors; Bigfoot Theatre came to visit us and brought an amazing show with them. The children went on a storytelling adventure to the continent of Africa. Our story focused on a little boy who was given a magic drum by his grandad. The children learnt lots of new food and animal facts as well as joining in with call and response and movement as they helped bring sound back to the little boy's village. We were really impressed with how excellently the children walked to the hall and took part.

## Weekly Learning Letter

### Reminders:

#### Labelling belongings

A gentle reminder to please label all your child's belongings with their **name**.

Many items have accumulated over the last few weeks, which we cannot give back to the children because they do not contain names.

We put these items in the large lost property shed by the main gate. If your child has lost something, please check the shed.

#### Cold Weather

Now that the weather is colder, please ensure your child has adequate clothing for time spent outside. We suggest gloves, hat, scarf, coat and warm/waterproof shoes or boots.

#### Bookbags

Your child's bookbag will come home on a **Thursday**

Please bring their bookbag into school on a **Monday**

This is important so that we can put all reading books back into their packs ready to give out new books for the week.

#### Phonics

This week in Phonics the children have been revisiting all the sounds they have learned so far - **s,a,t,p,i,n,m,d,g,o,c,k,ck,e,u,r,h,b,f,l,ff,ll,ss,j,v,w,x,y**. They have also learnt the new phoneme **z** and the digraphs **qu** and **ch**.

We have recapped all the tricky words so far: **I, the, is, as, full, put, pull, and, has, his, her**. They have also learnt the new tricky words **go, no, to, into**.



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Here are the writing mnemonics we use to help us write:

**z**: Across the top of the zebra's head, zig zag down it's neck and along.

**qu**: For 'q' Round the queen's face, down her robe and a flick at the end.  
Catchphrase for **qu**: 'Quick, it's the Queen!'

Catchphrase for **ch**: 'Chew the cherries, children.'

### Maths

This week we have focused on Number Bonds that make 5. A number bond is 2 numbers that make another number. The children have enjoyed learning about the different pairs of numbers that make 5. They have been using practical resources to make 5 in different ways (2 and 3, 4 and 1, 5 and 0)

This song below has been helpful for them to learn!

[Number Bonds to 5 Song - A fun maths song for Early Years!](#)



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### Children of the week

We are now into the routine of having 3 children of the week in each class. For those with any questions, those roles are

- The child of the week
- The class manager
- Whomever takes the class pet home

In terms of the parents roles, for the class pet we ask to fill in **one** page of the book with photos or writing about what you have done with the pet over the weekend.

The child of the week can bring in photos or things they like from home to share with class so we can get to know them better.

The class managers duties will be to make sure everyone is following the class rules so parents do not need to do anything for this. Every child will have a turn at each of the roles once throughout the year.

### Important Dates

- **Winter Fair – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November**
- **Educational Visit to St George's Church - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December**  
On **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December** we will be visiting St George's Church to help develop our understanding of the world by learning about what happens there in the run up to Christmas. The times of departure from school for each class are below.  
**Lions 9.10am**  
**Tigers 10.05am**  
**Bears 1.05pm**
- **Stay and Play: Personal, Social and Emotional Development Focus – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December**
- **Reception Christmas Performance – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am and 2.15pm**
- **Last day of term – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm finish**



# Weekly Learning Letter

## Home learning ideas:

- Please start regular reading with your child, their small reading book is for them to read to you!
- Help your child to practise putting on their own coat and zipping it up.
- Help your child to practise using a knife and fork at mealtimes, they could also help lay the table choosing the right number of cups, plates and cutlery for the number of people!

## We need your help!

Please help us to collect these items; we are having a competition between the classes! These items are to contribute to OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) please bring them to your child's classroom or the main playground by the sheds.

Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO				
Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Wooden spoons 	Action figures 	Plastic crates 
Dress up items 	Cars 	Dinosaurs 	Pans 	Plastic dolls 
Lego 	Small balls 	Scooter 	Plastic tubes 	Tarpaulin 
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Skateboard 	Cardboard tubes 
Guttering 	Wooden planks 	Helmet 	Aprons 	Chalk 

