



Welcome to Otter Class

Newsletter Spring 1 2026

Welcome to the Spring Term Otter Class. We hope that you were able to have a little rest over the Christmas break and all ready to dive into your second term in Year 1/2. 😊

Our class staff - Sam Hazle - **Teacher** Monday - Friday (excluding Thursday morning)
Gemma Storey - **Teacher** (every Thursday morning)
Amy - **Teaching Assistant** Louise- **Teaching Assistant**
Alison - **Teaching Assistant** Joanne - **Teaching Assistant**
Gemma - **Teaching Assistant** Carla - **Teaching Assistant**]

If you have any questions or concerns at any time please speak to a member of staff, contact the school office or email Sam at Samantha.hazle-toole@riverside.hants.sch.uk

Our Topics

During this first half term our topic will be '**Materials and our senses**'. We will be exploring using our senses to experience different smells, tastes, textures, along with what we can see and our response to different sounds. We will also visit others in the school to see what jobs they do and the things they use.

Key Language

Key words that we will revisit this term are:

I, me, you, like, want, yes, no

English

Our English learning will allow us to explore traditional stories. Our focus stories will include:

- The Three Little Pigs
- The Gingerbread Man
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Maths

This half term we will explore matching objects and pictures that are the same and matching numbers to a corresponding group of objects. We will also learn about simple 2D shapes.

Important dates



Monday 26th Jan – Parents Evening
Friday 13th Feb – Break for Half term

More dates will follow, please check your child's blue home/school link book for letters.

Continued Learning

Explore books with your child taking time where possible to look at the pictures and identify characters.

Explore different items using your senses - what can you find that is soft, hard, yummy, yucky, noisy, quiet. Can you find things you like to look at or perhaps things you do not like to look at.

Can you find socks that match? What other things can you find that are the same - shoes, gloves etc.

PE

Otter Class will have PE in the Hall every **Thursday afternoon**. This half term we will be exploring throwing using different sized balls and bean bags.



A little reminder:

- Please ensure reading books are in book bags on a Tuesday so that they can be changed.
- Our weather is so unpredictable! Who knows what is coming next - Please ensure your child has suitable clothing and footwear to cater for frost, rain or shine!
- Spare sets of clothing are useful for any events that require a change of clothing - messy play, art and craft, toileting mishaps.
- Please check your child's communication book as we will pass on messages here to ensure there is a supply of nappies and wipes in school for your child.