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Spring Term 1 Newsletter 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



A warm welcome back to everyone—we hope you all enjoyed a restful February half-term break. This last half term has brought its fair share of challenges, but our strong, compassionate team has truly pulled together. Their dedication has ensured that we continue to offer the highest quality care and education for all your children. A huge THANK YOU to our amazing staff for their hard work, resilience, and unwavering commitment.

We have loved embracing the winter season in our garden, wrapped up in our waterproof suits and ready for adventure. Although we are all hoping for a little more sunshine soon, the children have certainly made the most of the rain—there has been no shortage of muddy fun, puddle jumping, and joyful outdoor play!

Music With Ines
We enjoyed our final music session with Ines Sampaio on Monday 10th February. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Ines for inspiring us all to explore and embrace our own musicality. She has now embarked on an exciting new adventure in China, but we are delighted that she will be joining us again next year.

In the meantime, we will continue to nurture children's music and movement skills through our work with other musicians and artists as part of the Loop Project. More parent music sessions will be offered in the Summer term—watch this space!







Little Badgers Stay and Play
A reminder that our Little Badgers Stay and Play sessions continue on the following dates:

Wednesday 25th February
Wednesday 4th March
Wednesday 11th March

Sessions will resume after the Easter break.

Parent Information Sessions
Understanding and Supporting Your Child's Behaviour - Thursday 5th March

Spaces are still available for next week's session. This workshop will help you explore why young children behave in certain ways and how we, as adults, can support them through their 'big feelings'. We will share practical, effective strategies you can use at home to help your child feel understood, calm, and supported.

New Parents Meeting – Thursday 26th March
This session will introduce our approach to behaviour, relationships, and emotional development, supporting you to understand how we nurture children's wellbeing and independence.

Showcasing Our Nursery
We are proud to be supporting the East Midlands Stronger Practice Hub. As part of this work, we have been asked to showcase our environment and our approach to teaching and learning with other early years settings and schools. We will be welcoming visitors on Friday 6th March for the morning, where they will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in our warm, nurturing, stimulating, and inclusive learning environment.

Forest School Project Day
Forest School Project Day will continue to take place on Tuesdays this half term. Please remember:

- Dress your child in lots of layers on colder days
- Pack spare clothes, especially socks
- Expect muddy, joyful children at pick-up time!

We are convinced we have a sock-eating monster in nursery—we always seem to run out!

Inset Day Reminder
A reminder that Wednesday 25th March is an Inset Day.
Both Nursery School and Childcare will be closed for the whole day.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the office on 01773 745014 or email kerry.hartwell@ripley-nur.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Warm regards,

Nicola Brown
Headteacher of Ripley Nursery School & Ripley Nursery Childcare.