Seasons & Celebrations Autumn 2 Reception

Communication and Language

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Follow two-part instructions.
- Listen carefully to stories and recall key events.
- Answer who, what and where questions.
- Listen and respond appropriately to peers.
- Understand a wider range of vocabulary linked to topics.
- Begin to ask relevant questions.
- Use longer sentences to explain ideas.
- Retell familiar stories with some detail.
- Ask questions to find out more.
- Describe events in sequence.
- Use topic vocabulary in conversations.
- Take turns and respond to others during discussions.

Upcoming Dates

Monday 2nd November: Children return to School.
Friday 13th November: Inset Day - School is closed.
Friday 18th December: Break up for Christmas.
Monday 4th January: Children return to School.

Our Core Texts this half term are:

- The Leaf Theif
- Little Owl and the Christmas Star

Physical Development

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Balance on different body parts and apparatus.
- Travel in a variety of ways showing improving coordination.
- Throw, roll and kick with increased control.
- Follow simple movement sequences.
- Adjust movements in response to instructions.
- Use scissors to make simple cuts.
- Develop control when drawing lines and shapes.
- Use tweezers, tongs and small tools effectively.
- Begin to use a comfortable pencil grip.
- Develop hand-eye coordination through practical activities.
- Show increased precision during creative activities.

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Mathematics

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Identify and name circles and triangles.
- Recognise shapes in the environment.
- Use positional language.
- Describe the location of objects.
- Follow and describe simple routes.
- Recognise and represent numbers 4 and 5.
- Subitise to 5.
- Count accurately to 5.
- Find one more and one less.
- Explore the composition of numbers to 5.
- Identify squares and rectangles.
- Compare four-sided shapes.
- Combine shapes to make new shapes.
- Explore day and night.
- Discuss sequences of events.

Personal, Social and Emotional

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Identify emotions in themselves and others.
- Use simple self-regulation strategies when upset or frustrated.
- Follow routines independently.
- Adapt to changes in routines with support.
- Persevere with activities of interest.
- Begin to reflect on behaviour and choices.
- Independently follow hygiene routines.
- Dress and undress for outdoor learning and PE with minimal support.
- Tidy resources appropriately after use.
- Organise belongings independently.
- Show confidence when trying new activities.
- Form and maintain friendships.
- Work cooperatively in pairs and small groups.
- Show kindness and consideration towards others.
- Understand the importance of sharing and taking turns.
- Include others in play and learning.
- Begin to resolve minor disagreements with support.

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Literacy

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Retell familiar stories using pictures and prompts.
- Discuss characters and events.
- Predict what might happen next in a familiar story.
- Answer who, what and where questions.
- Talk about similarities between stories they know.
- Use newly introduced vocabulary during discussions.
- Recognise an increasing number of graphemes.
- Blend sounds to read simple words.
- Segment words into sounds with support.
- Read simple captions.
- Read words containing taught sounds.
- Develop fluency with previously taught sounds.
- Form taught letters correctly.
- Write some taught graphemes independently.
- Begin to write labels using known sounds.
- Hear and record initial sounds in words.
- Use writing opportunities during continuous provision.
- Begin to apply phonics knowledge when writing.

Phonics

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Recognise and recall taught grapheme-phoneme correspondences.
- Blend phonemes to read simple words.
- Segment words to support spelling.
- Read simple CVC words.
- Identify taught tricky words.
- Apply phonics knowledge during independent learning.
- Begin reading short captions.
- Develop confidence when attempting unfamiliar words.



supersonic
Phonic Friends
Your Enchanted Adventure

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Understanding the World

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Compare celebrations they experience now with those from the past.
- Discuss traditions within families and communities.
- Talk about Remembrance Day and why people remember.
- Use photographs and artefacts to discuss past events.
- Begin to understand that some events happened before they were born.
- Discuss changes that occur over time.
- Learn about a range of celebrations including Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas.
- Talk about traditions within their own family.
- Understand that people celebrate special occasions in different ways.
- Recognise similarities and differences between celebrations.
- Show respect for different beliefs and traditions.
- Use vocabulary linked to festivals and communities.
- Observe and describe seasonal changes.
- Learn about hibernation, migration and nocturnal animals.
- Compare different habitats.
- Discuss how animals survive in different environments.
- Use simple scientific vocabulary.
- Make observations about living things.

Expressive Arts & Design

This half term we are going to be focusing on developing these skills:

- Combine media and materials to create outcomes.
- Explore how colours can be changed and mixed.
- Develop increasing control when using tools.
- Create work linked to stories, celebrations and experiences.
- Talk about their creations using simple artistic vocabulary.
- Use creative materials during imaginative play.
- Act out familiar stories and experiences.
- Use language and props to develop imaginative play.
- Perform songs and rhymes to an audience.
- Explore how sounds can represent ideas and emotions.
- Create simple storylines collaboratively.
- Express thoughts and feelings through role play.

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Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and Exploring:

Explore seasonal changes through first-hand experiences indoors and outdoors.

Investigate natural materials such as leaves, conkers and twigs with curiosity.

Engage in role play linked to celebrations, festivals and family traditions.

Ask questions and explore why animals hibernate, migrate or are nocturnal.

Active Learning:

Maintain attention during stories, discussions and activities linked to festivals and celebrations.

Concentrate on creative tasks such as making Diwali lamps, remembrance crafts and Christmas decorations.

Keep trying when learning new skills and completing challenges independently.

Show pride in their achievements and share their learning with others.

Creating and Thinking Critically:

Compare similarities and differences between celebrations and traditions.

Use observations to talk about seasonal changes and the natural world.

Make predictions and explain their thinking during investigations and discussions.

Use what they already know to solve problems and develop new ideas in play.

Key Questions

How do people celebrate Diwali, and why is it important?

Why is fire safety important during Bonfire Night celebrations?

Why do we remember people on Remembrance Day?

How does autumn change the environment around us?

Why do some animals hibernate, migrate or become more active at night?

How do birthdays help us celebrate special milestones?

How are Hanukkah and Christmas similar and different?

How do festivals and celebrations bring communities together?

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Core Knowledge

Diwali is known as the Festival of Light.

Some animals hibernate or migrate in winter.

Remembrance Day helps us remember people from the past.

Hanukkah and Christmas are special celebrations for different communities.

Vocabulary

seasonal change, observe, deciduous, evergreen, Remembrance Day, memorial, tradition, celebration, festival, unsafe, safety, hibernate, migration, nocturnal, Hanukkah, Christmas, community, symbol, respect

Parent Partnership Opportunities

Lees Library visit to promote a love of reading and support early literacy development.

Uppermill Memorial visit to support learning about Remembrance Day and local history.

Parents' Evening to discuss children's progress, attainment and next steps in learning.

Nativity Performance to develop confidence, communication and performance skills.

Christmas Stay and Play session to share learning experiences and celebrate achievements together.

Children encouraged to share family traditions and celebrations linked to Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas and birthdays.

Autumn walks and seasonal observations at home to reinforce learning about seasonal change and the natural world.

Ongoing communication through Class Dojo