

Planning Theme: Celebrations and Festivals (Autumn 2 2023).

Looking at celebrations and festivals associated with this time of year from English culture and other cultures and religions

1. Why do we celebrate?
(PSHE, Communication and Language, Understanding the World)
2. How do we celebrate? Are all festivals and celebrations the same? (PSHE, Literacy, Communication and Language, Understanding the World, EAD)



Hook: There are lots of festivals and celebrations at this time of year. Children to discuss their own experiences of celebrations.

Areas of Learning.

Literacy and Communication and Language.

We will be using a variety of texts as a focus for our literacy work. This will involve listening to stories and discussing the story/text including settings and characters, sequencing the events of the story, making predictions or links and exploring vocabulary. The children will also be exploring non-fiction texts. Each text will be linked to focus activities led by an adult and independent continuous provision to further the children's learning.

Our texts will be:

- "Where the poppies now grow" by Hilary Robinson.
- "Flo of the Somme" by Hilary Robinson.
- "The story of Rama and Sita" Hindu story of Diwali.
- "The Jolly Christmas Postman" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg.
- "Dear Father Christmas" by Alan Durant
- "The Nativity" Christian story of the first Christmas.

Phonics.

Reception will continue to follow the Little Wandle phonics programme for Reception, which focusing on Phase 2 single letter sounds. This half term they will complete Phase 2 which focuses on the remaining single letter sounds and consonant digraphs. The children will learn to pronounce each phoneme, sound talk and blend the letters together to read CVC words. The children will also learn letter formation for each grapheme and to segment words to spell simple words. They will continue to learn their tricky (non-phonetic) words. A phonics practice sheet will be sent home weekly detailing the sounds being focussed on in class.

Reception will continue to follow the Little Wandle reading scheme which involves reading a book linked to their phonics learning in school three times with an adult (fluency, prosody and comprehension). This book will be brought home to share as a celebration of the children's progress. The children will also bring home a school library to share.

Maths (Mathematics).

Reception will be following the White Rose Scheme of Learning. The children will be learning about shape (Circles and Triangles, Shapes with 4 sides). They will learn to name, describe and identify shapes in the environment. They will also learn to describe position.

The children will also look at time and learn to identify day and night and associated activities.

In number Reception will continue to build on previous work and learn to identify, represent and subitise numbers from 1 to 5 and talk about their composition. They will also explore the concept of one more and one less using numbers to 5 (1,2,3,4,5)

Understanding of the World.

Science

In science the children will be exploring materials and carrying out simple tests to identify opaque and transparent materials, magnetic and nonmagnetic materials and which materials are waterproof.

History

We will be finding out about historically significant people and events including Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot and the First World War. The children will be finding out about these events using texts and historical photographs. We will also be exploring how some Christmas traditions have changed over time both during the children's lifetimes and since before they were born.

RE

Understanding Christianity - Incarnation

Reception will be exploring the significance of the festival of Christmas in the Christian faith and learning about the Nativity story. They will understand that Jesus is a special person in the Bible who Christians believe was sent by God as a symbol of his love.

ICT

The children will be exploring the functionality of a keyboard and a mouse to play simple games and/or produce digital artwork on a computer. The children will also be exploring data. They will be sorting and categorising objects to help them locate information. As a class the children will create pictograms to present data.

Expressive Arts and Design.

Music

Get Set for Music curriculum (Circus)

In this unit Reception will explore music through the topic of the circus. They will explore movement and sound and learn to sing, move and play to the pulse. They will play simple rhythms and learn to describe music and respond through movement. The children will also be learning songs, dance and percussion associated with their nativity performance.

Art

Reception will use a range of different media to create an abstract art piece based on fireworks or Remembrance. They will also use the JIT paint package to produce a piece of digital art. The children will also explore the use of a range of collage materials to create Christmas themed artwork. Reception will also explore sculpture through using clay to create a pot.

DT

The children will be designing and creating their own puppet. They will then be verbally evaluating their puppet saying what they thought was successful about their final product.

Personal, Social and Emotional.

PSHE

Jigsaw curriculum - Celebrating differences.

The children will be learning to identify things they are good at and identify feelings associated with success and being proud. They will identify similarities and differences between themselves and others and their own families and other families. They will explore different emotions in themselves and others and use this knowledge to make friends and stand up for themselves.

Physical Development.

PE Get Set for PE Curriculum (Fundamentals)

The children will develop their fundamental movement skills through the topic of 'places and spaces'. Children will develop skills of balancing, running, hopping, jumping, travelling and changing direction. Children will develop fine and gross motor skills, through handling equipment. They will learn how to stay safe using space and understand and follow rules and instructions. They work independently and with a partner to complete tasks.

Outdoor Learning.

The children will learn to appreciate the natural world and seasonal changes during outdoor learning sessions where they will explore our forest school area and work in our school garden. They will have the opportunity to develop team working skills through building dens and obstacle courses, learning to follow instructions and embrace new challenges.