



EYFS Curriculum Overview

Autumn Term 2

Light and Dark



Communication & Language

The children will be enjoying listening and participating with a range of books. The children will be encouraged to use descriptive vocabulary and understand the meaning of a range of words through stories. The children will sequence stories and familiar events and retell them. We will also begin NELI sessions in the afternoons. The NELI sessions use interactive activities and scaffolded storybook discussions to build vocabulary, active listening, and narrative skills. Throughout the day children will be involved in positive interactions with the adults where communication and language skills are proactively modelled.

Physical Development

Gross Motor

This half term the children will be taking part in cooperation games and exploring different ways of moving. They will be showing increasing control using balls and bean bags when throwing and catching. We will also be learning how to kick balls into targets and swing bats/racquets correctly and safely.

Fine Motor

We will take part in daily Dough Disco and Funky Finger sessions to develop fine motor skills and the development of pre-writing skills. The children will practise using a pencil and holding it effectively. We will begin to learn how to form ladder letters correctly and begin to form some of the letters in their name correctly.

PE

This term we will be looking at multi-skills. This will be focusing on Agility, Balance and Coordination, learning basic travelling skills and spatial awareness. We will be using a variety of equipment and looking at a number of different games that children will be playing individually, in pairs and working towards small team games. The children will also be working on cooperation, team working and confidence building in PE.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

In Autumn 2, we deepen children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development by focusing on our school value of friendship, helping every child learn what it means to be a caring, supportive friend. Through circle times, stories and shared discussions, children explore how friends help us feel happy and safe, how kindness builds friendships, and why everyone deserves to be included. This learning is woven throughout our continuous provision, where adults sensitively support play — modelling positive interactions, guiding turn-taking, helping children navigate tricky social moments, and celebrating those small but powerful acts of kindness that strengthen relationships across the classroom.

Literacy

Word Reading/Phonics

The children will continue to learn the level 2 letter sounds and tricky words. This term we will assess their level 2 reading skills and if they are confident with their level 2 sounds, we will move onto reading and writing level 3 letter sounds and words.

Reading Comprehension

The children will be enjoying and joining in with a range of books related to our topic. The children will be sequencing familiar stories, learning new vocabulary and beginning to answer simple questions about what we have read. They will also be having 1:1 reading books and guided reading sessions.

Writing

We will begin Autumn 2 by exploring performance poetry, focused on Bonfire Night. We will move on to enjoy the story 'The Gingerbread Man' with a focus on dialogue and writing simple vc and cvc words. We will finish the term by enjoying the book 'Elmer's Christmas', with a focus on writing a letter for Santa. Alongside this, the children will be developing their writing skills in daily phonics lessons and through opportunities in the continuous provision.

Maths

Number and Numerical Patterns

This term the children will be following the Numbersense programme. We will be completing our subitising skills. We will also consolidate our counting skills including one to one correspondence, the cardinal principle, linking quantities to numerals, ordering quantities and numerals and learning to correctly form numerals. We will also introduce numbers 6-10 in structured arrangements.

Shape, Space & Measure

The children will be exploring 2D shapes. The children will learn to recognise, name and describe a range of 2D shapes including circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.

Understanding the World

In Autumn 2, our Understanding the World curriculum is rich, hands-on and full of meaningful connections.

People, Culture and Communities

We will learn about Bonfire Night, Diwali, Christmas and Hanukkah, exploring how different families and cultures celebrate with light, colour, food and special traditions.

The Natural World

Our Natural World focus centres on light and dark — investigating shadows, using torches, and discovering how animals live in the polar regions during long winter nights.

Past and Present

Children will compare toys from long ago with the toys they play with today, noticing changes in materials, design and how children's play has evolved.

Expressive Arts & Design

The children will play cooperatively as part of a group to develop and act out narratives within their play. We will be learning about our artist of the term Jackson Pollock and exploring our own 'Bonfire' splatter art. We will also be developing threading skills by making our own Christmas tree decorations.

Music

Musical Classroom

The children will learn simple welcome songs and work as a class to create simple actions to accompany songs and nursery rhymes. They will learn to follow musical instructions and explore creative movement – jumping like a jack-in-the-box or dancing like a rock 'n' roll teddy bear. Active listening activities are used throughout the term and the children will experience a range of music from West African dance to the sound of Norwegian ice instruments. As the term progresses, they will learn to recognise simple classroom percussion instruments and compare their sounds. They will compose simple sound sequences and represent them using objects and pictures. The children will also learn songs for Harvest and Christmas.

Computing/E-Safety

The children will be developing computational thinking skills whilst taking part in our 'Winter Warmers' computing activities that include making bird feeders, learning about patterns by discussing and making scarf designs for snowmen and discovering igloos and how they are made. Our online safety focus this half term is online relationships.

French

We will be practising our listening and speaking skills as we focus on greetings, introductions and numbers in French. We will be finding out about France and what it is like to go back to school there. Later in the term we will find out about Halloween, the Jour du Souvenir (Remembrance Day), in France as well as exploring the traditions of St. Nicolas and Noël.

Trips/Enrichment Activities

This term, we will enrich our learning with a special storytelling workshop during Anti-Bullying Week, giving children the chance to explore kindness, empathy and positive relationships through imaginative, interactive stories. During Faith Week, the children will immerse themselves in a range of celebrations and traditions, building curiosity and respect for different cultures. We will also enjoy a hands-on toys workshop, where children compare the toys they play with today to those from the past, deepening their understanding of change over time in a fun, meaningful way.

Homework

In addition to reading, phonics and maths homework, a half termly topic homework menu will also be set. The homework menu consists of a bank of activities, which will vary from design and technology, art, maths, science, literacy or computing. They are encouraged to do at least two tasks on the menu. The purpose of this is to immerse the children within the topic and to give them a varied homework diet to showcase different talents. If your child is very proud of their work, they are welcome to bring it in for a show and tell, or to contribute to the class topic display.

It is essential that your child reads as much as possible. This doesn't always have to be your child's reading book; it is just as beneficial for your child to read a wider variety of fiction and non-fiction. Please ensure that you fill in their reading records if you have listened to them read. Weekly homework will be sent home every Tuesday. We ask that all homework books are handed in on a Monday.