Nursery **Autumn 2 2026**

Topic: ***Celebrations!***

Communication and Language

We will be using our 'Book of the Week' to practice our listening skills. We will be listening to the story, sometimes as a whole class and sometimes in a small group. We will start to join in with some of the noises or words in the story. We will answer questions and have opportunities during child-initiated play to retell the story and use props to prompt our recall and imagination. Throughout the day adults will help us to use sentences and build our vocabulary, using books wherever possible.

Physical Development

We will develop fine motor skills by scooping, threading, cutting, squeezing, drawing, painting and gluing. We will develop gross motor skills by running, negotiating space, pedalling, pouring, carrying, balancing and climbing. In PE we will be following instructions, changing direction, jumping and exploring different ways of movement using our bodies.

PSED and British values

We will be developing our PSED skills every day as we listen to others, gain confidence, ask for help and build relationships. Adult will model to the children how to listen to each other, behave kindly, share toys and ideas and how to take care of each other and our resources. In our PSHE lessons, we will be using the school-wide Jigsaw program. Our next unit is called 'Celebrating difference' and will link closely with our topic. We will be discussing different festivals, religions, celebrations and families.

Mathematics

We will continue to join in with counting songs to consolidate sequencing and number names. We will begin to make comparisons within groups of objects and start to use the language big, small, bigger and smaller. We will investigate shapes in the environment and use them in creative projects, and investigate capacity by filling containers with sand or water.

Understanding the World

We will be using the home corner to talk about experiences that are special to us and events that we have celebrated. We will be learning about celebrations from various religions such as Halloween, Diwali, birthdays, Firework night, Christmas and Nursery Rhyme week. We will be exploring floating and sinking and talk about some material properties and why some sink and get wet.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be exploring the different art resources in the classroom. We will be using paint and tubes and straws to create firework pictures. We will look at the artwork of Alma Thomas and recreate her work in our own style. We will have opportunities to cut and stick, combining materials and objects to create pictures. We will be exploring musical instruments and encourage children to perform their favourite songs during World Nursery Rhyme Week. Singing will also form an intrinsic part of our Christmas show.

Literacy

Reading and Phonics - We will continue to follow Little Wandle's Letters and Sounds Foundations for phonics program this half term, developing our listening skills to help us to 'tune in' to the sounds around us and in words. We will be listening for initial sounds in words, grouping words that begin with the same letter. We will also begin to notice rhymes in songs and familiar stories. We will be listening carefully to stories and anticipating what might happen next in familiar stories.

Writing - We have a wide range of writing tools available and will have plenty of opportunities to write and draw, representing words, people and objects. Painting and drawing with a purpose in mind are key components of early writing.

Role play themes

As our topic this term is all about celebrations, we will be adding in different dressing ups to suit the celebrations e.g. Halloween outfits and Christmas outfits. We will encourage children to take on a role in their play such as caring for babies, cooking food or being a family member alongside their friends. Cooperative play will be encouraged as children begin to share toys and props and invite others to join their game. In December we will turn the role play into a Christmas wonderland and decorate our classroom Christmas tree.

Home – School learning

Please continue to access observations of your child on Tapestry, as well as watching our book of the week videos. Children love taking Song and Story bags home. Build on our learning by counting, singing, reading and playing imaginatively with their child at home. Don't forget to look out for signs of autumn and winter on your walks!