Learning in Reception

Term 2 2026

Let's Celebrate!

Understanding the World

This term, we will explore festivals and celebrations from around the world, making meaningful connections to their own experiences and traditions. We begin by learning about Remembrance Sunday, helping children understand why it's important to remember and honour those who have served. As we move through the term, we'll discuss firework safety in preparation for Bonfire Night, before focusing on the Christian celebration of Christmas. Children will discover why Christians celebrate this special festival and explore the story of Jesus's birth, drawing comparisons with their own birthday celebrations.

Personal and Emotional Development

Now we are together as a whole class every day, we will further develop our ability to talk confidently to each other when playing and to communicate freely about our home and community. As our relationships develop, we will be encouraged to initiate play and conversations and to take into account the thoughts and ideas of others.

Literacy

In Literacy we will continue to share a range of fiction and non-fiction books about different festivals around the world, such as Harvest, Divali and Christmas. We will continue to learn new letters and sounds and begin to practise blending our sounds together for reading. We will be writing cards and captions as well as letters and party invitations.

Mathematics

We will be learning to count objects, actions and sounds. We will be learning to link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value with numbers up to 5 and beyond. We will be learning about one more and one less than a number to 5 and beyond.

We will be exploring 2D shapes, such as circles and triangles, using informal and mathematical language to name and describe them. We will identify and name shapes, make simple comparisons between shapes and identify 2D shapes in our environment.

We will encourage the children to talk about the key events in our daily routine. We will use language such as 'first', 'then', 'after', 'before', 'day', 'night', 'morning', 'afternoon', 'today' and 'tomorrow' to describe and order different events.

Communication and Language

We will continue to learn stories, rhymes and songs and will be talking about our own experiences of different types of celebrations such as birthday's and Christmas and Divali. We will continue to use role play activities to act out familiar experiences, trying to use language from stories that we have read. This will help us to broaden our vocabulary and recreate our own experiences with our friends.

Physical Development

We will be learning to travel with increasing confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment. We will continue to develop our gross and fine motor skills through our sand and mud play as well as our daily clever hands activities. We will be cutting, sticking and wrapping parcels. We will also be learning to understand the need for safety when tackling new challenges.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children continue to use their imaginations to create models and pictures through large and small construction activities. As they work, they're developing important problem-solving and critical thinking skills while sharing their creative ideas with others. In dance and drama, we will be learning songs, actions and lines, as well as learning how to put on a performance for an audience.