

Reception - Autumn 2 - Festivals and Celebrations.

Communication and Language	Personal, Social, and Emotional Development	Physical Development
We will develop our communication and language skills by talking about what is special to us, including the people, objects and experiences that are important in our lives. We will share our observations, express our ideas and feelings using full sentences of around six to eight words, and begin to use past-tense words with adult support. Through stories, role-play, props and puppets, we will practise retelling familiar stories, taking part in small-group discussions and learning new vocabulary. We will also prepare for our Christmas performance and learn songs together.	We will focus on the Jigsaw theme Celebrating Differences, exploring what makes each of us special and recognising that everyone is unique. We will talk about our strengths, celebrate our individual qualities and learn about different families. We will develop our confidence to express our feelings and opinions, learn how to stand up for ourselves appropriately and understand the importance of respecting others. Through discussions, stories and play, we will practise building positive relationships, appreciating similarities and differences, and developing a sense of belonging within our class and school community.	We will continue to develop our fine motor skills and hand control through daily Funky Fingers activities and opportunities to use a range of tools and materials. We will practise holding a pencil using a finger grip, showing a preference for our dominant hand and forming some recognisable letters. We will learn to handle scissors, paintbrushes, construction materials and malleable resources safely and with increasing control. We will also develop our coordination and physical confidence through active play and our weekly PE sessions.

Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the world	Expressive arts and design
We will continue our daily phonics sessions following our Little Wandle programme, alongside practising our tricky words. We will develop our early reading skills through regular reading practice and daily story time. In writing, we will explore different ways to communicate our ideas by creating Christmas cards, writing Christmas wishes, labelling photographs and making lists. We will continue to practise forming letters, hearing sounds in words and using our growing phonics knowledge to support our early reading and writing.	We will develop our mathematical understanding through our regular maths lessons, Mastering Number sessions and opportunities within our enhanced and continuous provision. We will be encouraged to explore numbers, quantities, patterns, shapes and mathematical ideas through practical activities, games and play. We will practise talking about our mathematical thinking, solving problems and using objects and resources to explore mathematical concepts.	We will learn about different festivals, celebrations and traditions, including Bonfire Night, Diwali, birthdays, weddings, Hanukkah and Christmas. We will explore how families celebrate special occasions and discover similarities and differences between religious and cultural communities. We will learn about Guy Fawkes, compare Christmas traditions from the past and present, and explore Victorian Christmas celebrations. We will also compare British woodland environments with jungles, talk about seasonal changes and explore the natural world around us. Through maps, photographs, stories and discussions, we will develop our understanding of our local community and the wider world.	We will explore our creativity through a range of art, design, music and imaginative play activities linked to festivals and celebrations. We will investigate colour mixing, create firework pictures using chalk, experiment with different textures and materials, and learn how to combine materials using glue and tape. We will explore the work of artist Gail Bartel through autumn leaf-inspired art and develop our design skills by planning and creating our own models. We will also act out stories, use props in role-play, move to music and learn and perform songs for our Christmas nativity performance.