



Autumn 2



Nursery Curriculum Newsletter

Communication & Language

The language children use in conversation with their friends and adults, help us to understand their experiences, thoughts and feelings. We will continue to encourage children to use simple and more detailed sentences to describe these. We will also be focusing upon social conventions of conversations (e.g. modelling listening attentively to others, taking it in turns to speak) and supporting children to develop their vocabulary by talking about new words encountered in stories and in daily experiences (e.g. last half-term we learnt what the word silence meant)

This area of development also supports the development of children's listening and attention skills and their understanding. We are continuing to encourage the children to focus upon tasks for increasing periods of time and this half-term we will be developing the children's understanding of positional vocabulary by finding out where Santa's hiding in our classroom (e.g. under the table, on top of the cupboard, behind the doll's house)

How you can help at home

You can: continue to talk about everything and anything! Model the social conventions of conversation and introduce new vocabulary to your child. Support the development of positional language by using this in daily conversation or by playing hide and seek games (finding a toy etc.) or asking your child where they found something.



Physical Development

Last half term we began Squiggle While You Wiggle sessions, where children practised a range of marks by dancing and then drawing the marks on paper. These sessions will continue over this half-term, with a significant focus upon holding a pencil correctly (using three fingers, at the bottom of a pencil). By practising this now, by the end of the school year, the children will be ready for writing in Reception.

In the last half term, the children were getting very good at trying to put their own coats on independently. We are continuing to encourage this and other self-help skills such as managing their clothing when going to the toilet and wiping their own noses.

How you can help at home

You can: continue to encourage your child to attempt to dress and undress independently. Please ensure they can manage the clothing they wear for Nursery, for example, pulling trousers up/down with ease. Teach your child how to wash their hands and wipe their own nose (especially as cold season is now upon us!) Draw and paint at home, encouraging your child to hold their pencils/crayons etc. correctly. You can also support children by encouraging hand/finger strengthening via games and activities such as 'Dough Disco' (see You Tube for this) and threading, you can use simple household materials such as spaghetti and pasta for this.



Literacy

We will be exploring stories and rhymes connected to our topics of Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. For example, Meg and Mog, 'Dear Santa' and 5 Little Pumpkins. We will be focusing upon recalling key events in the stories and joining in with repeated phrases in the stories and rhymes.

How you can help at home:

You can: share similar stories or any stories with your child. Ask your child questions about the stories (e.g. what happened first? who were the characters etc?) Sing nursery rhymes with your child. If you need, any of the words just let us know and we will give you a copy of them.

Mathematics

Our focus for this half term is counting. Counting numbers by rote to five and then to ten, counting forwards and backwards from 5, then 10. We will also be practising counting objects; teaching the children to line objects up, then touch each one in turn from left to right (as if reading) to count them.

How you can help at home:

You can: Practise counting by rote anytime, anywhere! Practise both counting forwards and backwards. Count toys, objects, the stairs as you go up/down them, doors on the way down the street, COUNT ANYTHING! Line up objects –count them from left to right, touching each one in turn, ensuring your child says one number name per object.



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Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We are continuing to practise sharing and turn taking at Nursery, as well as 'Showing 5 and good sitting' at keyworker group times. We are also developing our understanding of our own feelings as well as being aware of and responding to the feelings of others.

How you can help at home:

You Can: continue to encourage your child to share and take turns with toys at home (with brothers/sisters/yourself). Look at pictures in stories, on the television etc. ask your child how other people are feeling and why they think that. How can they make other people feel happier etc?



Topic

Our topic this half term is 'Magical Make Believe/Festivals'

We are learning about the festivals/celebrations of Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas! We will be learning all about who and why we celebrate these festivals and how they are celebrated. We will enjoy lots of stories and crafts connected with these festivals and talk about how we celebrate these at home (comparing our experiences to those of our friends/grown ups).

How you can help at home: You Can: talk about these festivals at home; visit the library/internet to find out more about Diwali. If you celebrate any key festivals or celebrations, please encourage your children to participate in preparations for Christmas such as helping to decorate the tree or making cards for family members.



Important Dates & Information

Christmas Inspire Session - Wednesday 29th November

Christmas Nativity Performance - Wednesday 13th December 9:00am & 2:30pm

Christmas Party - Thursday 7th December



Super Star Challenge: Our challenge for this half-term is to count forwards from 1 to 5, then to 10 and backwards from 5, then 10.



Remember we still have our Wow Area (opposite the coat pegs) and we would love to know if your child has completed our challenge (remember they will get a prize for their achievement) or any other good news from home! Write this on our Super Star Sheets!

SPARE CLOTHES: We are running drastically low on spare clothing in Nursery, particularly underwear and socks! If your child has borrowed any of our spare clothing, could you return this to Nursery as soon as possible? We would also welcome donations of such items, if you have any spare!

Thank you in advance for your continued support!