

Foundation Stage Autumn Term Overview

The themes for this term will be 'All about me' and 'Celebrations' and 'Colour'.

Characteristics of Learning: how your child learns

The children will be learning through finding out and exploring, playing with what they know and being willing to have a go. They will also be encouraged to get involved and concentrate on activities through perseverance and enjoy meeting their own challenges whilst developing their own ideas. Children will develop their critical thinking through making links, predictions and problem solving in their play.

Communication, Language and Literacy

In all areas of the curriculum, the children will be encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills, through name games, our 'All About Me' box, retelling stories and discussing colour through 'Wow said the Owl' By Tim Hopgood and other stories. There will be continuous opportunities for a variety of role play situations, both indoors and out. The children will be encouraged to use what they are learning to develop their own writing skills during independent play on our writing table both indoor and outdoor. The children will develop their phonic skills on a daily basis and will be bringing a book home to share daily. The Reception children will also begin to bring home key words to learn and practise with you. The children will develop their vocabulary through focused teaching of new words where they will collect and explore the meaning of these words.

Expressive Arts and Design

In art, the children will be exploring colour through messy play, collage, chalk and oil pastels. They will use mirrors to produce self-portraits and will be encouraged to look carefully at their own features. They will collect natural objects on a walk around the school grounds, which will be used for rubbings, collage and transient art. The children will look at the art linked to a range of festivals, such as Rangoli patterns and they will make a range of craft items for Christmas. In music, the children will explore sounds, how to make them and how to change them, using both their voices and instruments. They will also learn a range of songs and will be encouraged to accompany them with appropriate instruments.

Mathematical development

During this term, the children will work with numbers up to 10 and beyond, developing their counting skills and using them in a variety of real life situations, such as counting autumn treasures. The children will learn the language of more/ fewer / less and find 1 more or less than a given number. Reception will use a number line to count on or back linked to our topics. The children will look at 2D Shapes and describe their features. They will look at patterns, including those seen in the environment. They will compare objects by mass and length measuring themselves and objects around the classroom. They will weigh and compare parcels in a Christmas post office role play. The emphasis will be on practical activities and encouraging the children to develop their problem-solving skills. The children will be encouraged to explain their thinking, showing mastery of concepts and skills.

Understanding of the World.

The children will be looking at seasonal changes in their environment. The children will be going on an Autumn walk to collect signs of this season. The children will name and describe unusual fruits and vegetables relating to the Harvest festival. They will explore light through torches and shadow play. The children will learn the story of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder plot. During our 'Celebrations' topic, the children will learn about different festivals, such as Diwali and the people who celebrate them. The children will have opportunities to use ICT in a variety of situations, including using a variety of computer programs and remote controlled devices. The children will use iPads to take photos and videos of their own and their friends learning.

Physical Development

The children will develop their physical skills during a range of activities, including Bollywood dancing and outdoor games. They will also have the opportunity to develop their balancing and riding skills using a range of outdoor equipment. The children will continue to develop their fine motor skills in the classroom. They will use a variety of writing equipment and will be taught to use a correct pencil grip. They will have a weekly 'Dough Disco' session to strengthen hand and finger muscles in preparation for writing. They will use tools with play dough, in the sand and water and when they are designing and making things. They will be taught to use scissors, carefully and safely. Children will be taught about healthy eating through our daily café and trying new foods. Children will also talk about ways to stay healthy and safe in our world.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will be encouraged to follow the class expectations which they will think of themselves and to learn ways to stay safe at school. They will be encouraged to work together in groups and pairs to help develop this and to develop their relationships with others. The children will be encouraged to take turns, share and to listen to others in all situations and to use the 'Chat mat' to begin to solve disagreements. The children will be encouraged to discuss the differences and similarities between each other, and to accept them. The children will then be encouraged to think about how to be a good friend to others. They will learn about people less fortunate than themselves and how they can help them. The children will use the 'Black Book of Colour' to learn about their senses and about people with disabilities.