

Year R Autumn 2

LIGHT AND DARK

This half term we will be learning about why it goes dark at night time and why it's light during the day. We will think about light and darkness in the context of celebrations such as Diwali.

Reading and Writing

We will continue learning single sounds and digraphs in phonics lessons. We will be learning to sound out lots of words and try writing them down. By Christmas we should all be able to write our names. This half term we will continue to explore stories and animations in Drawing Club, which is our daily opportunity to practise mark making and writing. In guided reading sessions, we will learn to follow a text as we look at a book with an adult, sound out the words we see and blend the sounds together again.

Mathematics

In maths we are thinking about how all numbers are made by smaller numbers. We will be continuing to subitise up to 5 (recognise amounts without counting them).

We will also be exploring 1 more or less than a number.

Expressive Arts

In music sessions we will be performing music and playing instruments to different traditional tales.

We will be developing our indoor and outdoor role play areas using the children's creative ideas.

The children will learn how to join materials together in different ways, including using a hammer and nails in our woodwork area!

Understanding the World

We will learn about which animals like to come out at night and how we can help some of these animals to keep safe. We will also learn a little about what space is like. We will look at what gives us light and why light is important to help things grow.

Communication and Language

We will continue to learn new wonderful words and try to use them in our play and explanations. We will begin to form opinions about the books we read and will practise answering questions during Drawing Club sessions. We will continue to work on our listening skills by waiting our turn and responding appropriately during conversations with our friends.

Key knowledge

Dark is the opposite of light. Light comes from many sources, including the sun. Some animals like the dark and are called nocturnal.

Different people celebrate different things. Divali is the Hindu festival of light and Hannukah is the Jewish festival of light. Christmas is a Christian festival to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Bonfire night is the 5th November. Remembrance day is the 11th November. We remember people who have died in the wars.

Physical Development

In PE we will be learning gymnastics skills such as travelling, rolling, balancing and jumping. We will move to music in different ways during our music lessons and will continue to use balance bikes and trikes every Friday afternoon.

We will strengthen our arms, hands and fingers in preparation for writing during Funky Fingers time and will continue to practise letter formation each time we learn a new grapheme in phonics.

We will be learning how to use hammers and nails in our woodwork area, which is a fantastic way to exercise our arms, shoulders, hands, wrists and fingers.

Trick Box

Trickbox is a personal development programme for children. It aims to develop happy life habits. The children learn different ways (tricks) to deal with everyday situations and feelings through stories about a stickman called Drew. Last half term we learned 'Mirror, Mirror'.

The children are learning one new trick this term:

Stand Tall– This teaches children to think about what they are good at and to feel good about themselves.

Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be thinking about who is special to us and why it's good to be different. We will read the story 'Cant you sleep little Bear' and think about how we can help the bear to stop being afraid of the dark. This will then lead on to us thinking about the things that worry us and what we can do when we feel worried.

During Anti-Bullying Week will be talking about what bullying means and how we can hurt other peoples feelings with our words and actions.

Religious Education

In RE we will be learning about why the Nativity is important to Christians and will take part in our own retelling of the story. We will learn about Diwali and how Hindus celebrate this special time, as well as finding out about the Jewish festival of Hannukah.

We will talk about why all people are special and precious.

Ways you can support your child at home

Share your child's reading book with them at least 4 times a week. Remember, your child will bring home one physical book each week, but more are available online through the e-library. If you have any trouble using your login for this, please let us know.

Practise making amounts of numbers using different objects e.g can you find 5 pasta shapes? Can you find one more? How many is this?

Encourage your child to write their name as often as possible—writing cards to family or friends is a great way to practise, especially at Christmas time.

Encourage your child to zip and unzip their coat on their own when leaving the house.

Reminders

Water bottles need to come to school every day and must only contain water.

Remember to use Tapestry to send pictures and updates about the things your child is doing at home.

Please label all of your child's belongings, including shoes. If your child doesn't yet have a pair of wellies to keep in school, please bring a pair in as soon as you can.