

HWCE- Reception Newsletter-

Autumn 2- Celebrations

The theme for this half term is **Celebrations**. We will be looking at key celebrations from different religions, such as **Eid**, **Diwali**, and **Christmas**, as well as other special events like **birthdays**, **Bonfire Night**, and **New Year**. We hope you have enjoyed **Stay and Play** this term and look forward to including some **themed sessions** over the coming weeks. Reception will also be busy practising their **Nativity** this half term and are excited to share it with parents and families later in the term.

Phonics:

We are continuing with Little Wandle Phase 2 teaching. Below are the sounds and Tricky Words your child will learn this half term.

Autumn 2

	Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
Week 1	ff ll ss j	put* pull* full* as
Week 2	v w x y	and has his her
Week 3	z zz qu words with -s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) ch	go no to into
Week 4	sh th ng nk	she push* he of
Week 5	* words with -s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) * words ending in s /z/ (his) and with -s /z/ added at the end (bags)	we me be

*The tricky words 'put', 'pull', 'full' and 'push' may not be tricky in some regional pronunciations; in which case, they should not be treated as such.

For help with pronunciation: [For parents | Letters and Sounds \(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk\)](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)

Literacy:

This half term we are reading and writing under the theme of 'Celebrations'. We are reading 'The Most Exciting Eid' by Zeba Talkhani, 'My Diwali Light' by Raakhee Mirchandani, 'Kipper's Birthday' by Mick Inkpen and 'Jesus' Christmas Party' by Nicholas Allan.



We have been learning the following nursery rhymes:

- Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
- Pat-a-cake

- Hickory Dickory Dock

At home...

- Walk and Talk: [Talking to your child when you're out and about | Words for Life](#)
- Nursery Rhyme Week: [Singing nursery rhyme lyrics with babies and children | Words for Life](#)
- Create an Autumn poem... *Leaves are brown, leaves fall down, crunch on the floor, let's find some more.*
- Discuss with your family how you celebrate Christmas, Eid or Diwali. You could then share this with the class.

Maths:

In Maths, we are looking at numbers 1 to 5, as well as talking about circles and triangles.



At home...

Counting

Help your child to count small collections of objects e.g. conkers, acorns or leaves.
Get 5 conkers, line them up, count them together then move them around do they know there are still 5? If you have 2 conkers, do they know there are 2 just by looking or do they count each time?



Sharing

Try some problem solving with your child e.g.

- I wonder how we can share an apple between the two of us.
- I wonder if we could share it between four of us, how big would the pieces be?



Expressive Art and Design: Art/ DT

In Art, we are creating art and craft based on the festivals of Eid, Diwali and Christmas.



At home...

To brush or not to brush

If you have some paint brushes, then great. You could use old kitchen pastry brushes or make-up brushes. If not, there are other things you can use to paint with including your body parts.

You can create your own 'brushes' by attaching various items to clothes pegs. Try clipping on any of the following items, scouring pads, sponges, crepe paper, folded felt, cotton balls, pipe cleaners, string, feathers, foam and pom-poms.

Team Paint

Set yourselves a challenge to paint something together. Focus on the process of painting and praise children when they share the paints and paper and work well together.

Physical Development: Gross and Fine Motor Skills

In PE, we are looking at different ways to move when walking and starting to practice some gymnastics skills.

At home...

Dancing Dough

Choose some fun songs and turn them up loud. Take individual balls of dough and adult sings out the instructions like you are in and gym class.

Roll the dough into a ball using both hands.

Poke the dough with each finger and thumb in turn to make holes in the dough. Make sure you swap hands, so all fingers and thumbs are used.

Squeeze the dough with all the fingers and thumb using a fist grip one hand at a time.

Sausage! Roll the play dough between both hands moving backwards and forwards to make a sausage.

Pancake! Hold the play dough in one hand and push the other hand flat into the play dough. Repeat this until the dough is flatter!

Pinch the dough. Hold the play dough in one hand and use Tom Thumb and Peter Pointer to pinch the dough. Then swap hands and repeat.

Understanding the World:

We will be continuing Forest School this half term, where the children will be looking out for Autumnal/ Wintry changes to our surroundings and learn how to care for the environment.

In RE, we are thinking about ' Why do Christians perform Nativity Plays at Christmas?', learning about the nativity story and why everyone in the story has a key part to play.

At home...

- Write Christmas cards to friends or family
- Find out about how people you know celebrate Christmas.
- Visit a Christmas Fayre or Christmas Lights show.
- See how many different types of leaves/ trees you can spot on an Autumn/ Winter Walk.

Key Dates:

18th/ 19th November- Parents' Evenings

21st November- Non-Uniform Day (Tombola items for Friends)

28th November- Final Stay and Play Session

29th November- Christmas Fayre

3rd December- EYFS Nativity (More information to follow)

10th December- Christmas Dinner

11th December- Carol Service (At All Saints' Church)

17th December- Class Christmas Party

19th December- End of Autumn Term (School Finishes at 1.30pm)

5th January- INSET Day

6th January- Start of Spring Term