EYFS Autumn 2, 2026

Let's Celebrate



Phonics

Nursery: Tuning in to Sounds s a t p I n

Reception: Phase 2 graphemes.

Literacy

Use pictures to tell stories and engage in topic-based stories. Talk about/ 'write' our news, practise writing names and initial sounds. Make fires safety posters. Write labels for models. Use finger paints, brushes and sand tray to mark make, 'write' shopping/to do lists, make zigzag books/fact files about owls. Wish list for Santa.

Book List

Bonfire Night

The Best Diwali Ever

Owl Babies

Can't You Sleep Little Bear

The Big Dreaming

The Jolly Christmas Postman

Plus, a range of other high-quality fiction and non-fiction titles linked to the topic and Christmas.

Maths

Reception will count objects, actions and sounds. Subitise. Link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal value, count beyond 10, compare numbers. They will focus on counting, ordinality and cardinality, number composition, numbers within 10, shapes, and compare length, weight and capacity. Nursery will recite numbers past 5. Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5, Show 'finger numbers' up to 5, Understand position through words and spot patterns in the environment. Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity. Subitise 1. See I,2, 3

Communication and Language

Transform the home corner into a cosy family celebration area. Make tickets for a pretend fireworks display. Clipboards, pencils and simple invitation cards. Toy phones for inviting family members. Encourage children to take on different roles, share resources, negotiate ideas and use imaginative language. Explore firework sounds and words.

PSED

Firework/dark nights' safety. Talk about other cultures/beliefs/celebrations, food, clothes, etc Establish culture of asking for help, culture of listening, sharing, co-operating. Talk about bedtime routines, fears and worries. Focus on building relationships with family and friends.

Understanding the World

Seasonal changes – winter is approaching. What happens as the seasons change? How does that affect me/how does it affect different animals? What happens to the plants? Hibernations. Light and dark. Why do we need sleep? Explore different light sources (lamps, torches, fairy lights, candles). Learn how different cultures celebrate different festivals – Diwali. What is Remembrance Sunday? Why 2 minutes silence? Why do we celebrate Bonfire Night or Christmas? Baking opportunities bonfire night and Christmas time.

Physical Development

Daily fine motor activities to develop early writing skills to include hammering, cutting, threading, gluing, tying, manipulating, pulling, pushing, balance, strength, hand-eye coordination, jigsaw puzzles, playdough, clay, using chunky chalks, paintbrushes, water, maker pens. Dough gym. Gross motor skills – Gymnastics. Explore different ways of travelling using space in hall and outdoor areas- work on rolling, crawling, jumping, hopping, skipping, climbing, balancing. Talk about different ways to support healthy lifestyles. Firework dances.

Expressive Arts and Design

Firework dances to pictures. Fireworks splatter on black paper. Sing songs linked to season. Look at work of Japanese artist Kumi Yamashita who uses light and shadow in her work. Draw in the style of Raymond Briggs, using story of The Snowman for inspiration. EYFS Kapow Unit – Paint My World. Finger painting/outdoor painting. Group art/transient art.