

Dear Reception and Nursery Parents, here is our topic for this half term. Please use it to aid your own research or bring things into class to support our learning. Have fun!

As communicators we will:

Play listening games and building a bank of exciting words to describe day and night. We will discuss our dreams and fears of the dark. We will take orders and serve customers in our café. We will orally retell stories through role play.

As healthy movers we will:

Handle tools in the classroom safely. Using play dough and clay we will make our hands strong for writing. Form recognisable letters in our writing. We will go on adventures in the forest, to see nocturnal animals/ night time workers etc. mime day & night routines. We are developing our running and jumping skills. You can practise these with me at the park.

As individuals and friends we will:

Learn how to stay safe around fireworks and bonfires. As part of our anti-bullying week we will learn the importance of being kind and respectful to others. We will talk about Christmas traditions in our homes and celebrations from other faiths.

Celebrations

As artists, actors and musicians:

Make black cats and bats for Halloween.
Make firework pictures using paint, chalk and glitter.
Make nests for nocturnal animals.
Make day/ night sounds using instruments.
We will prepare for our Christmas play, learning new songs, lines and how to be confident performers.
We would love to practise our Christmas play songs at home so that we can be especially confident when we perform.
Create advent wreaths, Christingles and angels for the top of the Christmas tree.

As explorers and investigators we will:

We will investigate the symbol of light and how it is used in Diwali, Hannukah and Christmas. We will explore light sources and shadows. We will discover that darkness is the absence of light. We will learn about nocturnal animals and the differences between day and night.

As readers and writers we will:

We are reading: 'After the storm' by Nick Butterworth.
'Can't you sleep little bear' by Martin Waddell. We will light a candle and think about how it makes us feel while we listen to the story.
A Diwali story 'Lighting the Lamp' by Jonny Zucker.
We are learning to write for different purposes.
In our birthday party role play area we will be writing cards and invitations. In our post office we will write letters, postcards and labels for parcels.
We will be writing letters to Santa and Christmas cards.

As effective learners we will:

Work together, taking turns and sharing.
Show our particular interests. Take on a role in our play.
Take risks and try new activities. Try again when something doesn't work the first time.

As mathematicians we will:

Learn the name of 3D shapes and match shapes to parcels. We are developing our number skills, learning to recognise and form the numbers from 1-10 and beyond.
We are learning about the concept of time from day to night. We will sort items from day/night.
We will sing songs to do with counting forwards and backwards e.g. 10 little fireworks. We will solve number problems including doubling and halving.