

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have had a restful holiday after a busy half term. The children settled extremely well into Nursery and we are very proud of each and every one of them. We would like to thank you all for your support last half term. During the last half term the children learnt so much about themselves, their feelings and learnt how to talk in more detail about their families. This half term we will be focusing on Festivals and Celebrations. We will look at Bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas.



**Routines:** In a few weeks we will be starting a lending library for Nursery. During the Nursery session the children will choose a book to bring home. You can then read this book with your child and encourage them to talk and ask questions about the book. The book will then be returned to Nursery and your child will then choose a new book. We will let you know the days that your books will be given out and when they need to be returned by, via the red news book.

The red news books have been a great source of discussion within class. The children have enjoyed showing us their photos and drawn pictures of places they have been or things they have done. It has promoted speaking and listening, writing, creativity and turn taking. We thank you for your support with this.

**Prime areas:** This half term we will continue to help nurture your children, to make them feel safe, confident and happy. We will look at helping the children to develop friendships, sharing and turn taking.

**RE:** Our RE topic for this half term is to look at the question 'Why do Christians perform plays at Christmas?'. We will look closely at the Nativity story, listening to it, retelling it and acting it out. We will look at the true meaning of Christmas and why it is important to Christians. We will also look at other festivals and celebrations such as Diwali and why it is called the Festival of Light.



**5 a day:** These are books that we will listen to on a regular basis throughout the half term. We will read different versions of the stories and learn them to a point where the children can verbally retell the stories. The books will cover areas such as Non Fiction, a Bible story, a rhyme, a multicultural/ P4C book (philosophy for children) and a traditional tale. Our books this half term are: Celebrations around the world, The Nativity story, Twinkle, Twinkle Little star, Lighting a lamp and Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

**English** - Our key focus this half term are the stories Peace at Last, The Nativity story and our other 5 a day books. We will focus our activities around these texts, learning how to ask and answer a range of questions, learn new words and simple sentences. We will also develop our pencil control and draw pictures and describe them.

**Maths** - In Maths we will continue to look at a number and shape of the week. For the number of the week we will look at representing it in different ways e.g. claps, jumps, on a dice, on a tens grid, objects and the numeral. For the shape of the week we will try and find shapes within our environment, look at how many sides/ corners the shape has and any distinguishing features such as 2 long and 2 short sides for a rectangle. We are also continuing our learning with how to count out objects to match a number and size, relating this to Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

**Understanding the world:** We will look at the traditions and festivals of Christians and other faiths and the story behind bonfire night and Christmas. During the half term we will also make sweets for Diwali. We will look at using simple technology, learning how to turn it on and what makes things work. We will learn about Winter and the changes we see between Autumn and Winter.



**Expressive Arts and Design:** We will enjoy a range of Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali and Christmas crafts. We will also make instruments to help us with our phonics learning.

Partnership with parents is a key aspect of our Early Years Curriculum, so members of the Nursery team will be out by the classroom door each morning if you need to speak to us. We will also always be available to email through the school office, so do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Marlborough, Miss Wright and Miss Kelly