

Reception learning

Our topic this half term is Let's Celebrate!



During the second part of the Autumn term will be doing more work exploring the season and observing the changes we notice as we move into winter too. We will spend more time reading Julia Donaldson and practising hearing (and writing) rhyming pairs. The children are working well through phase two phonics; we will continue through the phonemes (see phonics doc.) and practise spelling CVC words. We have also become superstars at choral reading and will continue our daily reading sessions.

As we move through the term, we will also be looking at celebrations and key events such as Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Hanukkah, and Christmas. We will also practise and learn our own Christmas play to perform to you!

Below outlines how the topic links to the EYFS curriculum.

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE Children will listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound, being able to point out rhyming pairs. They will also learn familiar rhymes, poems, and songs to perform as a whole class. Children will also show (begin to show) that they can use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT Children will see themselves as a valuable individual, being able to express their feelings and consider the feelings of others. We are promoting children's independence during toilet times e.g., washing their own hands without prompt, and dressing themselves e.g., putting on coats and zipping them up independently. We will work **with** the children to help them develop resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT Children will use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor. They practise this daily in their phonics and reading sessions. Children will develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely, and confidently e.g., pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, as well as knives, forks, and spoons to feed themselves independently.

MATHS Children will Compare numbers developing an understanding of the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers. We will also explore the composition of numbers to 10 e.g., 4 is made from 1 and 3.

LITERACY Through our phonics programme children will learn to read individual letters by saying the sounds for them. They will read a few common exception words matched to the school's phonic programme. Children will also read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known

letter-sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words. During our phonics sessions we will practise forming lower-case and capital letters correctly.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD Children will begin to understand that some places are special to members of their community; recognising that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. We will be discussing Hanukkah and Christmas.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN Children will be encouraged to create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources, and skills. They will also practise singing in a group (or on their own), increasingly matching the pitch, and following the melody. We will show you how well we can do this in our Christmas performance.

Help at home



It has been lovely to see so many of your children enjoying sharing books at home. We will continue to send your child home with a book that matches their current reading ability. Please ensure that this book and diary is brought back to school each week and we will change it for a new book every **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please take time to read the book with your child and talk about the story and characters. Every day you read with your child they will get a point towards their next rainbow reader badge. Some children have reached 50 (orange badge) reads already!



Phonics play



Julia Donaldson reads
Stick Man



Oxford Owl free
phonic eBooks

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 29th November - Polar Express Day: Children to come to school in pyjamas and school shoes.

Wednesday 30th November - School Christmas Fayre 3-5pm

Thursday 1st December - Family craft time 1.40-3.15pm

Tuesday 6th December - Christmas play

Friday 16th December - Christmas Party: Children to come to school in party clothes, sensible shoes only please.

Friday 16th December - Break up for Christmas holidays

If you have any questions please come and see us or contact Mrs Williams

r.williams@hayesmeadow.staffs.sch.uk