



This half term our topic is 'Come on and Celebrate!' The aim of this leaflet is to give you an overview of the skills to be covered during the study of this topic. Due to the child focussed curriculum in Early Years, we are unable to specify exactly what we will be doing as it can change regularly depending on the interests and abilities of the children.

The topic will look at many different festivals and celebrations such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, family celebrations and culminating in Christmas.

Learning will take place through the seven areas of the EYFS curriculum:

Three Prime Areas: Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Communication and Language; Physical Development.

Four Specific Areas: Literacy; Mathematics; Understanding of the World; Expressive Arts and Design.

Within these areas the children will be learning skills and working towards specific goals. The goals which they will be working towards achieving by the end of the Foundation stage include:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Time will be spent finding out about festivals and celebrations and children will be encouraged to talk in groups, show interest and consider consequences. Children will continue to practise taking turns, cooperate with their peers and consider the feelings of others.

Children will;

- ❖ Continue to be interested, excited and motivated to learn
- ❖ Be confident to try activities, initiate ideas and speak in a familiar group
- ❖ Maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly when appropriate
- ❖ Have a developing awareness of their own needs, views and feelings of others
- ❖ Form good relationships with peers and adults
- ❖ Work as part of a group or class, taking turns and sharing fairly
- ❖ Dress and undress independently and manage their own personal hygiene
- ❖ Select and use activities and resources independently

'Communication & Language' and 'Literacy'

During this topic we will look at a range of fiction and non-fiction picture books and stories. Children will enjoy listening to the books and respond in a variety of ways to what they hear, reinforcing and extending their vocabulary. We will continue to teach phonics through Read Write Inc. The children will:

- ❖ Enjoy listening to and using spoken and written language, and readily turn to it in their play and learning
- ❖ Explore and experiment with sounds, words and text
- ❖ Sustain attentive listening, responding to what they have heard by relevant comments, questions or actions
- ❖ Interact with others, negotiating plans and activities and taking turns in conversation
- ❖ Speak clearly and audibly with confidence and control
- ❖ Hear and say the initial and final sounds in words, and short vowel sounds within words
- ❖ Attempt writing for different purposes
- ❖ Find out information through listening to books or audio.
- ❖ Use a pencil and hold it effectively



Mathematical Development

Children will be given the opportunity to identify and explore 2D shapes, as well as using them in patterns and designs. We will also be looking at addition, continuing with number and developing our measuring skills.

Children will be able to:

- ❖ Use language such as 'more' or 'less' to compare two numbers
- ❖ In practical activities and discussion begin to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting
- ❖ Talk about, recognise and recreate simple patterns
- ❖ Use language such as 'circle' or 'bigger' to describe the shape and size of shapes
- ❖ Use appropriate language to compare quantities
- ❖ Begin to use mathematical names for 'solid' 3D shapes and 'flat' 2D shapes, and mathematical terms to describe shapes.
- ❖ Select a particular named shape.
- ❖ Use familiar objects and common shapes to create and recreate patterns and build models.
- ❖ Order two or three items by length or height.

Understanding of the World

This topic offers lots of opportunities for the children to gain and show their understanding of popular customs and traditions. The children will:

- ❖ Show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.
- ❖ Remember and talk about significant events in their own experience.
- ❖ Recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.
- ❖ Show an interest in different occupations and ways of life.
- ❖ Enjoy joining in with family customs and routines.
- ❖ Know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

Physical Development

Activities will be set up to help children use different tools and materials effectively and safely. The children will be encouraged to be aware of their own movements and to control them to the best of their ability.

Children will be able to:

- ❖ Negotiate spaces successfully when playing racing and chasing games with other children, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles.
- ❖ Travel with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment.
- ❖ Show increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking it.



Expressive Arts and Design

During this topic children will experience working with a variety of artistic materials, creating artwork inspired by fireworks, light and Christmas. They will also be learning songs and actions as part of our Christmas production. The children will:

- ❖ Begin to build a repertoire of songs
- ❖ Experiment to create different textures.
- ❖ Understand that different media can be combined to create new effects.
- ❖ Manipulate materials to achieve a planned effect.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

P.E. Kit (Reception only):

Please ensure that your child has a **named PE kit** in school every day. This should consist of:

- a plain white t-shirt
- blue shorts
- plimsolls that fit
- a spare jumper/tracksuit bottoms (outdoor P.E.)

Visits/Visitors

The children will participate in weekly yoga sessions and Reception will continue their weekly music lessons. We will visit Whitehouse Farm on Wednesday 12th December and a Pantomime visit is scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday 20th December. More details to follow nearer the time.

Our EYFS Nativity Performance will take place on Tuesday 18th December at 10am.

Show and Tell

Children are encouraged to bring in items from home to Show and Tell to the class. In the Owl class, Show and Tell takes place on a Tuesday and Friday. It has a positive effect on children's confidence and also helps their speaking and listening skills. We try to limit the items brought in to topic-related items only but if you have been on a special holiday or it has been your child's birthday and they would like to share something then please bring it in.



Please feel free to drop in to Early Years at any time to speak to a member of staff, we are always available before and after school and will be happy to answer any questions or queries.

Heddon St Andrew's Primary School



Autumn Term 2 2018

Nursery - Miss Kerridge, Mrs Batey and Mrs Todd

Reception - Mrs Cubbage, Mrs Haddock and

Mrs McGurk/Miss Watson