

The Teachers in Year are: Miss Harrison, Mrs Pericleous, Mrs Williamson and Mrs Hubbard
The Teaching Assistants are: Mrs Walker, Mrs Skelton and Mrs Laz

Our Topic this Half Term is 'Me and My Community' and 'Exploring Autumn'

This half term, our topics are 'Once Upon a Time' and 'Sparkle and Shine'. In Once Upon a time, your child will be introduced to the wonderful world of stories. They will listen to a range of traditional tales and have the chance to act out the stories in their play. They will also listen to alternative contemporary stories to see different viewpoints from the characters. They will use the stories to think about how life has changed from when the stories were written. They will also make up their own stories and make masks, props and puppets to act out their stories. In Sparkle and Shine, your child will explore different celebrations that take place in autumn and winter, focusing on the significance and symbolism of light at this time of year. They will take part in a variety of creative activities and discover more about how Christmas, Diwali and Hanukkah are celebrated around the world.

English This half term we will be reading different fairy tales. We will be joining in with the repeated phrases for example, "Then I'll huff and I'll puff, and I'll blow your house down!" We will be writing character descriptions, book reviews and rewriting parts of a fairy tale. We will also have fun acting out different fairy tales to our friends and learning what makes a good audience. We will also be enjoying stories about different festivals, and talking about similarities and differences between them. In Phonics, Nursery will be focussing on listening to environmental sounds and hearing initial sounds in words. Reception, will continue to learn new sounds in Phonics and use these to write simple words and captions independently.

How you could help your child prepare for the topic...

Read traditional stories and fairy tales to your child.
Visit your local library and choose picture books to share.
Talk about the characters in stories and whether they like or dislike them. Talk about how the characters in stories behave and what they could do differently.
Talk about special events that you celebrate at home.
Share photos of events that you celebrate.
Talk about how you prepare for special celebrations including the clothes you wear, food you prepare and gifts you give or receive.

Maths

Our learning for this half term will be learning to:

- Explore 2D shapes and investigate how shapes can be combined to create new shapes e.g. 2 triangles can be put together to make a square.
- Compare length, weight and capacity.
- Positional language e.g. the pig is 'in, next to, behind' the house
- Talk about the number that is one less.

General Reminders:

PE: Our PE days are **Mondays and Fridays**. Children must come to school in their PE kit (**white tshirt, dark navy/black hoodie, shorts joggers or leggings please**)
All earrings must be removed. Any child with earrings will NOT be allowed to take part

Yoga Bugs: This takes place every Wednesday. Children will wear their normal school uniform for this. All earrings must be removed. Any child with earrings will NOT be allowed to take part

Reading: Your child will be receiving worded reading books with the sounds they have learnt in phonics. Please see the link in 'useful websites' to watch a video that tells you how each sound is pronounced. These will be given out on a Friday and must be returned by the following Wednesday. Please support your child with their reading: it really makes a difference! Aim to hear them read a minimum of three times a week – little and often works best ☺

Water Bottles: We encourage the children to drink water throughout the day. Please send a named water bottle in each day. The bottle must contain water only. We do not allow squash, juice or flavoured water. **Pleased remind your child NOT to put this in the book bag with their book please.**

Useful Websites:

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>
<https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com>
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/early-years/shape-monsters>

Autumn Dates for your Diary:

6th November - Back to school
16th November – Children in Need Day
17th November – INSET Day
24th November – Stay and Play
12th December – Christmas Market
19th & 20th December - Nativity
21st December – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
22nd December – School breaks up for Christmas
8th January - Back to school

Any other Information

Children will be set homework on a Friday – This is to be completed by the following Thursday. ☺