Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had an enjoyable break We can't wait for the exciting term ahead.

Thank you for continuing to help your child come to school every day, on time, and ready to learn after a good breakfast.

This term's topic is **'Why Do We Celebrate?'** We'll be following the children's interests as we explore **Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Birthdays, family celebrations, thanksgiving,** and of course **Christmas**, with our class **Nativity performance** (more information to follow).

Please continue to check Tapestry to see what your child is learning at school. Feel free to upload exciting moments from home too.

Ideas of how you can support your child at home?
You do not need to do anything elaborate. Everyday conversations and experiences provide wonderful opportunities for learning.

Share a story: Read together regularly and talk about what is happening, what your child notices and what might happen next.

Talk about celebrations: Discuss occasions your family observes, or celebrations you have learned about together. You could look at photographs, decorations or familiar objects.

Practise counting: Count toys, pieces of fruit, steps or items while shopping. Compare groups using words such as more, fewer and the same.

Encourage early writing: Let your child make marks, write their name, draw pictures, create cards or help write a shopping list.

Explore the world: Notice lights, shadows, seasonal changes, leaves and different materials during everyday activities.

Sing and move: Enjoy familiar songs, action rhymes, dancing and simple musical games.

Encourage independence: Give your child opportunities to put on their coat, manage belongings, tidy toys and help with simple tasks.

Celebrate kindness: Talk about saying thank you, helping others and making people feel included.

If there's anything you'd like to ask or talk about, please feel free to catch me in the playground before, or after school, or call the office to arrange a time for a meeting.

Many thanks,
The Reception Team

Reception Newsletter Autumn 2

Why Do We Celebrate?











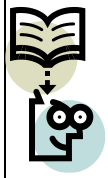
Uniform

Please ensure that jumpers, cardigans and fleeces are labelled with your child's name, if written in pen please make sure that it doesn't wash off.

Water bottles



Please make sure your child brings a reusable water bottle every day filled with plain water only. Nothing else to be bought to school please (no toys, food etc.)



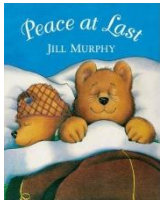
Reading

Your child will now start to get a wordless book sent home. This is a pre-reading book. Your child can describe what they can see in the pictures, talk about the characters and where the story takes place, as well as making up their own story from the pictures too. When your child is able to blend words themselves, we will start to send home books with simple 3 letter words – these are for your child to read to you. Please make sure your child is saying the sounds and blending these together to make the words (instead of reading the book to them). Please give your child time to read this book to you *every day of the week* and fill in the yellow reading record accordingly. Reading books will be changed every Tuesday and Friday.

PE

Our PE lessons will continue to be every Thursday. Please make sure that your child still comes to school in their PE kit on this day.

Communication and Language:



This term we are helping your child to learn new vocabulary linked to celebrations and traditions. As well as encouraging them to express their ideas, ask questions and talk about their experiences. We will also be trying our hardest to make sure we listen attentively to stories and to take part in discussions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

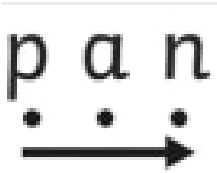
This half term we will be continuing to develop our confidence, independence and resilience. Practising sharing, turn-taking and working together.

We will be learning to recognise feelings and develop kindness, empathy and respect for others.

Physical Development:



This term we are helping your child to develop their gross and small motor skills. We will work on strengthening fine motor skills through drawing, cutting, joining and making, as well as our pencil control when practicing forming our letters and writing our name. We will also be using our knife and fork properly when eating our school lunch. Please practise this at home



Phonics:

This half term we will continue to learn a new letter sound each day. We are also learning to blend the sounds we have learnt so far, into words. Blending means pushing individual letter sounds together to read a whole word e.g. s/a/t makes sat.

Literacy:

We will continue to enjoy a range of engaging stories linked to our celebrations theme, as well as developing our comprehension by discussing characters, events and making predictions.

Mathematics:



We will be developing a deeper understanding of numbers to 5, reinforcing concepts like subitising (instantly recognizing the number of objects), and introducing counting and comparing numbers. Children will also work on early addition and subtraction, develop spatial reasoning and shape recognition through play, and build foundational counting and problem-solving skills.

Understanding the World:

Through our Celebrations topic we will be exploring different traditions, beliefs and communities and talking about our past and present celebration experiences.

We will also Investigate light, shadows, natural materials and the world around us.

Expressive arts and design:

We will express our ideas about celebrations creatively through art, construction, music, role-play and performance. We will be developing coordination through movement, dance and action songs.