Learning in EYFS – Autumn 2 - 2026

This half term our theme is **'Festivals and Celebrations!'**
This will include: learning about the traditions of Christmas, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day along with sharing Nursery Rhyme week and some family celebrations including weddings.

English/ Read Write Inc: The children in Nursery will continue to focus on communication and language, listening to one another and asking and answering questions. In Reception, children will be following the Read Write Inc program – Set 1 sounds, including special friends and using Fred talk to orally blend words. The children will be developing their handwriting skills through holding a pencil in the tripod grip and following the RWI rhymes to write letters correctly.	**Mathematics:** The focus for the children in Nursery will be beginning to order number names to 5, explore shapes and positional language. The children in Reception will be focusing on subitising to 5, representing and composing numbers 1,2,3,4 and 5 identifying 1 more and 1 less, identifying shapes in the environment and using positional language correctly.	**Communication and Language:** The children will be encouraged to listen attentively and respond to what they hear. Make comments about what they have heard and ask relevant questions about the theme they are learning. Children in Nursery will have 'weekend news' sessions – talking about something that they and their family did at the weekend.
Personal, Social and Emotional: The theme for the SCARF PSHE program this half term is 'Valuing Difference'. We will focus on understanding that we are uniquely values, identifying similarities and difference between ourselves, our families and our homes and what makes us a good friend. We will be promoting the school value of 'tolerance' through our daily activities in the classroom. This will include respecting someone's differences; what we eat, what we wear and still play and be kind together.	**Physical Development:** The children will be developing their fine motor skills through using a variety of malleable materials including sand, playdough and salt dough. The focus for both Nursery and Reception will be 'Ball Skills' where we will be experimenting with different ways to move a ball using both hands and feet and developing team work skills.	**Understanding the World:** Our theme this half term is 'Festivals and Celebrations'. In this theme we will be thinking about Bonfire night, Remembrance Day, Diwali, Christmas as well as celebrations that we share with our family and friends, including birthdays and a wedding ceremony. We will think about the Winter season and the changes that occur.
Expressive, Arts and Design: The children will enjoy a variety of role-play activities through the half term, leading up to our special Christmas performance! The children will learn a variety of songs and perform them to an audience. The children will be learning to use primary colours to create secondary colours and use a selection of joining techniques to join different materials. The musical hero of the half term is Andrew Lloyd Webber with a focus on musicals and the song 'Any dream will do.' The DT hero of the half term is Margarete Steiff who was a talented seamstress who overcame childhood polio to found the world-famous Steiff toy company.	**Focus texts:** Sparks in the sky Poppy Day - Eliza Berison The Scarecrows Wedding - Julia Donaldson Kippers Birthday - Mick Inkpen Rama and Sita - The story of Diwali Malachy Doyle The Christmas story - DK	**Nursery Rhymes of the term:** **Nursery Rhyme week - 9-13th November 2026** Hickory Dickory, 1 2 3 4 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive, Doctor Foster Went to Gloucester Pussy Cat Pussy Cat. Row,row, Row Your Boat **Magic moments:** The children in Nursery will take part in a birthday party and the children in Reception will attend a (pretend) wedding ceremony and dress in their finest outfits! Dennis Hylton from New Life Church in Dunstable will be coming into school to tell us the meaning of Christmas.