

# Half Term Curriculum Overview

## Festivals and celebrations F2

### Literacy

**Word Reading:**

In our phonics we will continue to learn new letters and sounds. We will focus on orally hearing all the sounds in simple words. We will then practise blending the sounds together in order to read the whole word. We will begin bringing home Sounds Write books that link to the phonics we have been learning in school. We will also continue to learn new sight words – these are words that we can't sound out.

**Writing:**

This half term we will continue to learn how to write our names using our morning name writing books. We will also continue to develop our fine motor skills through activities such as threading and peg boards. We will use our phonics knowledge to begin to write words, hearing and writing up to three sounds in each word.

**Comprehension:**

As we get to know each of our focus texts we will begin to act them out and retell them using a variety of activities such as images, role play and small world play.

### Maths

**Number**

In number this half term, we will continue to develop our skills with counting to 10. We will also look at how to put numbers to 10 in the right order. We will begin to understand that numbers are made up of smaller numbers.

**Numerical Patterns**

In our shape work we will begin by exploring repeated patterns – this will follow on from our work in Autumn 1 where we started to learn about simple repeated patterns. We will build on this by describing and following patterns such as red, red, green, red, red, green. We will have a go at making our own patterns too!

We will be learning language that we can use to describe the size of different objects such as 'big', 'small', 'tall', 'short', 'wide' and 'narrow'. We will apply this language in our independent learning. We will also be learning how to use words to describe directions such as 'forwards', 'backwards', 'through' and 'around'.

### Growth Mindset

#### Taylor the Teamwork Star and Charlie the Curiosity Star

We will also be taking part in the Commando Joe's programme which aims to help children develop essential life and character skills.

### Books

Diwali books – non-fiction

Little Glow by Katie Sahota

Christmas Nativity story

### Homework

- To share a book at home at least once a week as well as read a book from school that is tailored to your child's phonic reading level. Please bring your book bag and reading diary into F2 every day.
- To talk, talk, talk!
- Topic homework grid – have a go at the activities and upload it onto Tapestry!

### Special Events

Parents evening

Baking breadstick sparklers

We will be performing a Christmas play!

# Understanding the World

## **People, culture and communities**

We will be getting to know lots about different religions through exploring different festivals that happen during the winter months. We will explore Diwali (Hinduism) and Christmas (Christianity) as our main two festivals. We will learn how these festivals are celebrated in different ways.

## **The Natural World**

Our small world table and Investigation area will be linked to our topic and help us to retell our focus books. We will use natural materials to create pictures that represent Diwali and Christmas.

## **Past and present**

We will be learning about the history of Bonfire Night. We will also talk about how we take part in different celebrations at home.

# Physical Development

## **Gross and fine motor skills**

In PE we will continue to explore moving in different ways using music from different festivals and celebrations. We will continue to use the jungle gym to develop our climbing skills as well as negotiating space and obstacles. We will also continue taking part in weekly Commando Joe sessions to develop our resilience, teamwork and communication. We will develop our fine motor skills by taking part in morning finger gym activities to strengthen our muscles ready for writing. To support this, we will be practicing to hold writing equipment with 3 fingers. We will continue to use our finger gym area during our independent learning time to strengthen our fine motor muscles.

# Expressive Arts and Design

## **Creating with materials**

We will be creating our own representations of Diwali art including making Mehndi hand patterns and Rangoli patterns. We will use different media to achieve different textures on a large scale outdoors and smaller scale indoors. We will also focus on creating Christmas cards and crafts. We will also create decorations for autumn, winter and the Nativity and take part in firework artwork activities.

## **Being Imaginative**

In our music sessions we will be listening to different types of music that people listen to during festivals. We will use our own instruments and body percussion to recreate music and songs. We will compare music from different festivals and explain why we like some music more than others. In our role play area, we will act out the Diwali and Christmas stories using props and books.



## **Class Blogs –**

Visit our class blogs to: read the latest news, look at photo slideshows and find out more about what we have been learning.

Please also see TAPESTRY !!!