What children will learn / revise / revisit / rehearse during

Our Celebrations

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

As we move into Autumn 2, we are continuing to support children in settling even deeper into school life–helping them build strong friendships, understand their emotions, and grow into confident, independent learners!

- **Respectful Relationships:** Building constructive, positive connections with classmates and trusting relationships with school staff.
- **Valuing Themselves:** Helping each child see themselves as a unique, valued individual and take pride in who they are.
- **Expressing & Understanding Feelings:** Learning to talk about their own emotions while noticing and caring about how others feel.
- **Personal Hygiene & Independence:** Managing everyday self-care routines independently, including washing hands thoroughly and taking care of their personal hygiene.

Communication & Language

This Autumn 2, we are creating a language-rich environment to help children expand their vocabulary, grow into active listeners, and become confident, expressive communicators!

- **New Theme Vocabulary:** Using new topic words naturally as they play in our small-world, role-play, and construction areas.
- **Careful Listening:** Understanding *why* listening is so important and practicing focused listening during group times and activities.
- **Asking & Sharing:** Asking questions to discover new facts, as well as sharing their own thoughts, ideas, and opinions.
- **Describing Experiences:** Practicing talking about past events, stories, and activities in clear, rich detail.

Physical Development

This Autumn 2, we are focused on building strong, capable bodies by developing both our fine and gross motor skills!

- **Fine Motor Control:** Strengthening small hand and finger muscles to support a comfortable pencil grip for drawing and writing, as well as developing accuracy when using scissors.
- **Gross Motor Skills:** Revising and refining core movement skills—like running, jumping, hopping, and skipping—to build strength, balance, and coordination.
- **Spatial Awareness:** Learning to move safely and confidently in shared spaces while showing care and awareness of others around us.

Literacy

This Autumn 2, we are continuing to nurture a deep love of stories, expand our daily vocabulary, and inspire a passion for early reading and writing!

- **Phonics (Read Write Inc.):** Continuing with Set 1 sounds—focusing on letter sounds, identifying initial sounds, blending sounds to read words, and segmenting sounds to spell.
- **Early Writing:** Practicing writing our names, writing familiar words, and beginning to mark-make and write simple labels.
- **Letter Formation:** Learning to form letters correctly using our RWI memory rhymes to help guide our movements.

Maths

This Autumn 2, our focus is on building **maths fluency and mastery**–helping children develop a deep, confident understanding of how numbers work through hands-on exploration and play!

- **Introducing Number 7:** Exploring the number 7, recognizing what it looks like, and understanding the total value of 7 objects.
- **Developing Number Sense:** Building strong early maths skills across six key areas:
- **Counting & Cardinality:** Counting accurately and understanding that the final number tells us "how many."
- **Comparison & Composition:** Exploring *more than* and *fewer than*, and discovering how numbers are made (e.g., seeing that 7 can be made of 5 and 2).
- **Pattern, Shape, Space & Measures:** Spotting repeating patterns, naming and describing shapes, and exploring size, weight, and capacity in everyday play.

Understanding the World: Celebrations

This Autumn 2, as part of our 'Our Celebrations' theme, we are helping children explore the diverse world around them by learning how different families and communities come together to celebrate special occasions!

- **Beliefs & Traditions:** Learning that people hold different beliefs and celebrate special times in unique ways, with a focus on Diwali and Christmas.
- **Comparing Celebrations:** Exploring the similarities and differences between Diwali and Christmas–looking at shared traditions like light, food, music, decorations, and family gatherings.

Expressive Arts & Design

This Autumn 2, we are encouraging children to express their creativity, imagination, and musical talents–whether they are learning seasonal songs, inventing pretend storylines with friends, or designing and building purposeful creations!

- **Singing & Music:** Joining in group singing with growing confidence, learning to match pitch and follow melodies–especially as we practice songs for our upcoming seasonal celebrations.
- **Collaborative Role Play:** Working alongside classmates in our role-play areas to build shared stories, act out scenarios, and develop imaginative play.
- **Open-Ended Construction:** Using small-world toys, blocks, and loose parts to build creative confidence and spark imaginative ideas.
- **Purposeful Design & Reflection:** Choosing colors, tools, and materials with a plan in mind–talking about what they are creating and reflecting on how to adapt or improve their designs.

Learning Through Play & Supporting Every Unique Child

Alongside our exciting topic enhancements this half term, child-led play and open-ended continuous provision remain at the heart of everything we do!

- **Indoor & Outdoor Exploration:** Children have daily opportunities to learn through play and explore their own personal interests across all curriculum areas, both inside the classroom and outdoors.
- **Tailored Adult Interactions:** By knowing each child as a unique individual, our team uses adaptive teaching, thoughtful questioning, and high-quality interactions to guide and extend their learning.
- **Individual Growth:** We nurture every child to build confidence, progress at their own natural pace, and achieve their personal best.

Exposure to new vocabulary

Key Vocabulary

Teamwork Responsibility Respect Creativity Truthfulness Compassion Perseverance Friendship

Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

Sharing Taking it in turns

Celebrate Tradition Belief Similarity Difference

Diwali Hindu Mendhi Rangoli

Christmas Advent Christian

At the end of this theme children should be able to answer the following questions:

Diwali is also known as the Festival of…?

What things are the same about celebrating Diwali and Christmas?

What special times or traditions do you love celebrating in our family?"