



## St Mary's Primary

### School Writhlington

Welcome to Autumn Term 2 – we have a very glittery term ahead of us!



### Topic

The topic for Autumn Term 2 is *Festivities*.

We are learning about bonfire night (we already have a bonfire planned in our conservation area!) the Hindu festival of Diwali and of course, all things Christmas (too soon?!).



### Physical Development

This term, your child is required to wear PE kits to school every Friday. Please make sure your child has black leggings, joggers or shorts and a P.E. top. Wellies are continued to be required at all times in school as children have access to the field in all weathers. Please put names on all sweatshirts and cardigans!

### Reading

Thank you for your support with reading at home! It is important that you listen to your child read **every day** and record this in the reading record. Please share both the 'Phonic' book, and the 'Reading for Pleasure' books. Keep reading sessions, simple, fun, and remember to talk about the pictures too!

The children are making good progress with their Phonics Books. In order to help them to become more fluent, they need lots of chances to re-read these books. The books contain sounds and words that we have already learnt.

**Phonics-** This Term we are learning new letter sounds (phonemes) and how to write them (graphemes). We are learning Reception Autumn 2 sounds. I have attached a printout of the sounds we are learning and advice on how to say them correctly. There is also a free video showing you how to pronounce the sounds correctly in the **parents** section on The Little Wandle website. [www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk](http://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised  
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



### Literacy

In literacy this term, we are learning and exploring the sounds of new words – the children will record themselves making firework noises, then write labels for a fantastic firework display. We will also be using the sounds that the children have learnt to write words and short sentences and captions.

The children will also participate in a range of drama activities this term, including learning and re-enacting the Diwali story, and of course acting and performing in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 Nativity performance.

The children will also share special times they have experienced themselves with their friends and family. As Christmas nears (it is inevitable!), the children will write Christmas cards - we can't wait to see how much the children's writing will have progressed by then!

We will be learning lots of Christmas songs instead of nursery rhymes this term and we guarantee they will get stuck in your head (they are already stuck in ours!).



### Mathematics

We have some exciting maths activities planned this term! The KIRF (Key Instant Recall Fact) this term is... "to be able to count up to 10".

If your child can already do this, we will be consolidating and challenging them so that they really master and develop a deep understanding of the numbers and how they relate to each other. Mastery activities can include: counting forwards and backwards from a given number, recognising numbers in and out of order, writing numbers, spotting missing numbers, subitising objects, ordering numbers, quickly knowing 1 more and 1 less...the list is endless!). Please help your child to achieve their KIRF by practising at home, we have attached some ideas to help!

The children will also learn about 2D shapes. We will focus on circles, triangles and rectangles, and using them to make models and paintings.

We are moving on to recognising numerals, and ensuring that children can match objects them correctly. We will share stories, such as *Pete The Cat and His Groovy Buttons* and invite children to hunt for objects that match the numbers we are learning. The children will also be learning about composition of all numbers to five this term. We can use 5s frames and part-part whole models for this. Please see the attached KIRF sheet for ideas. During this term, we will also take a look at addition and subtraction, always with practical and fun activities!

A HUGE thank you for all of the support with your child's learning steps at home. This impacts hugely on the progress your child can make and it is an absolute pleasure seeing how many children achieve these steps each week!

### Topic Sessions

In music this term, the children will be listening to and appraising a range of music, including Roll Alabama by Bellowhead, Boogie Wonderland by Earth Wind and Fire, Don't Go Breaking My Heart by Elton John and Kiki Dee, Ganesh is Fresh by MC Yogi, and Frosty the Snowman by Ella Fitzgerald. The children will be learning a range of songs through our music curriculum and through learning the songs for our nativity. We are teaching the children to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, express their feelings and responses, and increasingly match pitch and follow melodies of the songs they learn. In our outdoor learning sessions, we will be having a bonfire, and learning the rules about fire safety. This will build on the knowledge the pupils learnt during their time in Little Acorns, where they also spent a lot of time learning outside around the fire! In R.E. we will also be exploring 'special' places of worship, as we explore Hinduism through Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light and Christianity through Christmas.

Our focus through 'Jigsaw' (our school Personal, Social and Health Development programme) is 'Celebrating Difference.'

In P.E. our focus will be on developing coordination, movement to music and dance skills.

### Important Messages...

- Tapestry online learning journal – You are all now signed up to Tapestry and we thank you for activating your accounts. We have uploaded last term's photos and at the end of this term we will add a summary of learning that has taken place for your child. We would love it if you would also contribute to Tapestry. Please upload photos and notes, and please feel free to comment on photos and observations we share each term – we really value these contributions. At the end of the reception year, you will be able to download and store these forever, they really are to be treasured!

- Dojo – Don't forget that you can message both teachers directly if you have any questions or queries about your child's learning. Miss Hallowes teaches Mondays and Tuesdays (best to message Miss Hallowes on these days), and Mrs Martin teaches Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday (best to message Mrs Martin on these days!). We will also add updates and school notices on the Dojo homepage also. Any queries about ParentPay/lunches, please direct towards the school office – Mrs Fenton is an expert!

Dates:

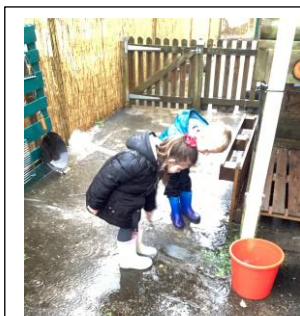
There is a mufti day on 1<sup>st</sup> December. The children will be able to bring a donation in order to wrap a present for a loved one.

Nativity

This year's EYFS and KS1 Nativity will be performed on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and again on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am.

**And Finally, We are working hard to develop our outside learning area. We have a list of items that would really help us to resource this. If anyone has any of the following items that we can have, we would be very grateful!**

- Sturdy plastic milk crates (x4)
- An old steering wheel (x1)
- A wooden child's play kitchen
- A wooden child's bookshelf
- A wooden child's dolls house
- Some low-level garden border fencing
- A tractor tyre



Outside is  
where the  
magic happens-  
whatever the  
weather.



Please dojo or speak to us directly if you do have any of these items that you could donate.

The parent/teacher relationship is so important to the learning and development of your child and we welcome you to communicate with us either by Dojo, or during pick up/collection (mornings are usually a little busy!). We really do have the most wonderful class and we are so proud of how kind and happy they all are, and all that they have achieved so far – it is actually incredible!

Thank you for your continued support,  
The Little Oaks Team ☺