

Widening Horizons, Raising Aspirations

Foundation Stage – Elmer and Paddington

Learning this term: This term our topic is 'Once Upon A Time' and we will be reading and enjoying lots of traditional tales. We will listen to different versions of the stories, sequence them, act them out and talk about the characters and settings. We will also be learning about different celebrations that happen at this time of year including Fireworks, Diwali and Christmas.

In **Phonics** we will revise the phase 2 phonemes that we have learnt so far and use them to help read and spell new words. We will then move onto some of the phase 3 sounds – we will continue to send home copies of the phonemes that we have learnt that week. In **Maths** we are learning about the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 – what they look like, how they can be represented and finding 1 more or 1 less than these numbers. We will also be looking at common 2D shapes and finding them in our environment. In **Expressive Arts** we will be acting out stories, building houses for the little pigs, learning rhymes and songs. We will also be learning songs for our Christmas Nativity. As part of our **Personal, Social and Emotional development** we will think about taking turns, following rules and instructions and describing our feelings.

During this term we will also be going out for a walk around our local area to post letters that we have written. We will have our Christmas Nativity that you will be invited to come along and watch and some fun Christmas celebrations.

PE will continue to be on Mondays and **Forest School** on Tuesdays so please continue to send your child in wearing the appropriate clothing for these activities.

At the end of each week we will post on Tapestry an overview of what learning has taken place that week so that you can discuss it with your child and if you want to revisit some of it at home.

Year 1 – Jeffers and Carle

This term our new topic is celebrations. Before kicking off our new topic, we will spend the first two weeks learning about fireworks and the Festival of Light called Diwali. We will learn why and how we celebrate these.

In **English**, we will then move on to develop the children's creative writing skills by describing characters, developing story-telling and improving our sentence writing. In **Maths** this term we will be continuing to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction within 20. The children will be introduced to the traditional symbols used in written number sentences for addition and subtraction

and we will explore the vocabulary related to these. As well as practising simple calculations so that the children develop instant recall of these basic number facts we will be exploring the patterns involved and developing our problem solving and reasoning skills. materials, explore their properties and carry out simple practical investigations. In **RE** we will be exploring the question 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?'. In **PSHE**, we will be celebrating our differences, encouraging the children to acknowledge and value their individuality as well as the importance of equality. In **Design and Technology**, we will be exploring, designing and creating our own fireworks. In **Art** we will be making our own Diva lamps.

Some general reminders:

- As the weather is likely to change please send your child in dressed appropriately. Please can we ask that all items of clothing are clearly named so that they can be returned to their rightful owner.
- Spare clothes and carrier bags can be kept at school in case a change of clothes are needed
- Reading record books need to be signed and dated when you have read with your child. Our aim is for every child to read at least **3 times a week** please to try and help your child's class be the reading champions for the week
- Please could your child bring in a named water bottle in each day

Next week, we have Parent Consultations so make sure you have booked an appointment. At these, parents and carers often ask what they can do to support their child with their learning; here are our Top 5:

- *Listen to your child read (or read to them) every day if you can or at least 3 times a week*
- *Help them to practise their number bonds in the Infants or their times tables in the Juniors*
- *Help them practise their spellings*
- *Make sure they come to school every day that they are well*
- *Talk to your child about their day at school - make sure your 'phone is in your pocket at drop-off and pick-up times!*

We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you next week!

Kind Regards,

The Early Years Team