

# Year R Autumn 2 Celebrations



## BIG QUESTION...

## How do you celebrate?

Bring out the fireworks, balloons, gifts and festivities!

It's time to dress up for special occasions.

In this exciting and varied topic, we will find out about how different families celebrate different events in their lives.

Together we will celebrate the differences we have as that is what makes our community so interesting.



*'Play is often talked about as if it is a relief from serious learning.  
But for children, play is serious learning.'* **Fred Rogers**

## Characteristics of Effective Learning-

- Active Learning (motivation): Being involved and concentrating; enjoying achieving what they set out to do; keeping on trying.
- Playing and Exploring (engagement): Being willing to have a go; finding out and exploring; playing with what they know.
- Creating and Thinking Critically (thinking): having their own ideas; making links; choosing ways to do things.

## In this topic, you can help:

### Communication and Language

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking

#### Listening skills

Follow the link for some good ideas on how to help develop you child's listening skills.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/sarah-and-duck-on-cbeebies-radio> listen to Sarah and Duck stories together. Here your child needs to listen to a story without pictures can they maintain attention and talk about the story after.

Play I spy games e.g. I spy something beginning with P...plate you can do this looking at the pictures in the core books we send home or looking at objects around the room. Help your child to hear the first phoneme of a word.

#### Understanding and speaking skills

Try to read a story every day to your child. Stop to talk about the pictures and discuss what is happening on each page. Encourage your child to ask questions about what is happening. Discuss how characters in the story might be feeling, ask why they acted as they did. Talk about where the story is set. Discuss any new words and their meaning. Re-read stories they already know well. Re-read favourite stories but deliberately make a change e.g. to the name of a character or to the ending. Can your child spot the change you have made? Encourage your child to answer questions in sentences as they speak. Ask them lots of how and why questions to encourage thinking. Cooking together is a great opportunity to see if they can follow instructions with you and answer questions.

### Physical Development

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrBsNhwxyzg>

Make playdough at home and practice squeezing and squashing it. This helps to build the muscles in the fingers for pencil manipulation. Enjoy some time doing dough gym or dough disco together. See the above link for just one example. Provide opportunities for your child to climb, use monkey bars and build upper-body strength which is important for their writing skills. Play wheelbarrow games, do crab crawls or bear crawls around the house.

The children have used balance bikes and pedal bikes at school now. Continue to develop these skills in the park asking your child to demonstrate safe cycling by giving stop, fast, slow, turn challenges whilst they are cycling.

Practise sending and receiving a ball in different ways, throw, roll, kick etc.

Provide regular opportunities for your child to make marks on paper. Encourage vertical, horizontal and circular movements. Sticking paper to the underneath of a table and encouraging children to lie on their backs to draw is lots of fun. Provide a cave or den to encourage reluctant children to have a go.

Provide opportunities for your child to cut and snip with scissors. Cut up old magazines to make collage pictures.

Talk to children about the importance of eating healthily and drinking water throughout the day. Provide a sports cap water bottle for your child to have at school. **ONLY WATER** should be in their bottle.

Teach your child to toilet independently, **flush after use** and wash their hands thoroughly.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Self- Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships

This term we will be celebrating difference. We will consider how we all have something we are good at and that different people are good at different things. We will talk about how to be a kind friend and that we can be tolerant of people who feel and act differently to us. We can agree to disagree. We will think about how we are all different but the same in some ways.

But Martin by June Counsel

Elmer David McKee

You be you Linda Kranz

Only one you Linda Kranz

Odd dog out Rob Biddulph

Mine by Rachel Bright

The Squirrels who Squabbled by Rachel Bright

Listening to and talking about any of these stories at home will help to cover this theme

### Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing

Practise our new GPCs at home:

**ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk**

Practise reading CVC words with the GPCs they know.

Read the tricky words: **put pull full as and has his her go no to into she push he of we me be**

Practise writing the GPCs as we send them home each week.

Encourage your child to handle books with care and understand how to turn the pages carefully.

Share books every week with your child and encourage discussion.

Encourage your child to begin to make up stories of their own.

Provide opportunities for your child to carry out tracing and colouring in activities to develop pencil control.

Encourage your child to play write and begin to include GPCs they know e.g. to write a shopping list they might draw an orange and write 'O' or an apple 'a' etc. they could do this for a Christmas list a list of friends etc.

Begin to read words with -s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) and words ending in s /z/ (his) and with -s /z/ added at the end (bags sings)

<p><b>Mathematics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number</li> <li>• Numerical Patterns</li> </ul>	<p>We will be finding out about one more or one less in a group of objects and on a number line. At home you can encourage counting forwards and backwards on the number line. Making sure that your child can count a group of objects accurately. Touching each object as you count can help with this.</p> <p>Play lots of dice games where the dice have dots or digits on and move an object the correct number of spaces along a track.</p> <p>We will be using language to compare items by length, height and weight. Help your child to sort and order different things by size for example longest to shortest or heaviest to lightest.</p> <p><a href="https://nrich.maths.org/13372">https://nrich.maths.org/13372</a> maths games and activities to enhance your child's learning.</p>
<p><b>Understanding the World</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past and Present</li> <li>• People, Culture and Communities</li> <li>• The Natural World</li> </ul>	<p>At home you can talk about the different sorts of celebrations your family share such as birthdays, Christmas, Halloween, Diwali, Eid, Hanukah, weddings, naming ceremonies etc. Look at photographs of special times in your family and discuss what was happening. Special times are often marked with special foods, what special foods do your family enjoy?</p> <p>Can you find out about a festival or celebration that is different to one you share in your own family?</p> <p>How do families celebrate the same event in different ways around the world?</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate">https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate</a></p> <p>Find out about lots of different celebrations here</p>
<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating with Materials</li> <li>• Being Imaginative and Expressive</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QSLIEt_LJY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QSLIEt_LJY</a> Lanny Sherwin Everyone is different</p> <p>We will explore how we can change the shape of clay by squashing and squeezing or rolling. We will use different tools to make marks and patterns in the clay. At home you could make playdough together and explore how to change the shape and texture. Try using Lego bricks to make different patterns on the surface</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe">https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe</a></p>
<p>Early Years teaching is different to KS1 as our emphasis is on working practically and learning through play. We take into account the children's interests often planning in the moment and adapting activities to follow their interests. All areas of the curriculum can always be found in our free flow resources and open-ended activities.</p> <p><i>Although the activities listed above have been planned at the beginning of this topic, the teaching team may tweak them in order to focus on engaging, enthusing and motivating the learners in their classes.</i></p>	



**TOP 5 WORDS to know by the end of this topic:**



Christmas

Occasion

Celebration

Diwali

Birthday

**Useful websites to enhance learning:**

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5RMpbn1X8tMkMQgw0GRhz8L/early-years-foundation-stage-eyfs-listening-skills-activities>

**Enrichment opportunities:**

Diwali finger light dance

Christmas show performance

Whole school theatre visit

**British Values**

Tolerance

**Behaviour for learning**

Being Determined

