

# Early Years Curriculum Outline Autumn Term

## Learning Journey

### Knock, Knock.....



Around our school and in the community

We will be getting to know people in the school who help us, St Mary's church.  
We will also be learning about our locality and having people from the local community visit us.

### *Half Term*

## Celebrations

We will learn about the festivals of Diwali, Holi and Christmas. We will enjoy the stories of Elmer and explore pattern and colour.

A range of activities is planned for these themes to incorporate the seven areas of learning using the indoor and outdoor learning environment.



Within the Early Years Foundation Stage much of the planning comes from the children's own interests and we aim to allow individuals the opportunity to follow their own learning journeys. We also have running alongside this approach a theme that hopefully will capture the interest of a large majority of the children. This may come from our observations of the children's play, information from home, events in children's lives or from our curriculum. This term the first half term will have the theme 'Knock, knock', when will be knocking on doors around the school and doors in the community such as the church door. In the second half term we will have the theme of 'Celebrations' which will link to events such as bonfire night, Diwali and of course Christmas.



### **PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The children will be introduced to the routines of school and encouraged to be independent as soon as possible. They will have the opportunity to talk about and understand their own feelings and will begin to develop an understanding of what qualities make a good friend. The children will be encouraged to try new activities and initiate their own ideas. These are celebrated and shared with others during 'sparkle time'. Each week we will choose a star of the week, focusing on why each individual is special.



### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

This term physical skills and gross motor control will be developed through outdoor play, gym and dance. We aim to use the outdoor environment as much as possible, even on rainy days so please ensure that your child brings a suitable named coat every day to go on their peg. The children will be learning to move and travel with increasing control. Through games such as traffic lights the children will learn to stop and start on a given signal and develop awareness of self and of others. They will be shown the correct technique for lifting and carrying heavier items such as mats, benches and outdoor equipment. There will be some directed tasks aimed at improving fine motor skills such as cutting with scissors and pencil grip.



### **COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE**

There will be many opportunities for the children to listen to adults, each other and take turns in conversation. We will introduce the children to talk partners to develop their speaking and listening skills. The children will have the opportunity to listen to visitors such as Mrs Jee. They will be encouraged to ask questions and talk about things that are of interest to them.



## LITERACY

We will be looking at nursery rhymes and matching words that rhyme. The children will be introduced to the Oxford Reading Tree characters and read books relating to them. Throughout the term there will be a focus on core text such as Elmer and the Christmas story. The children will be introduced to letter phonemes through Jolly Phonics and the letters and sounds programme. We will introduce single letter



phonemes and then move onto digraphs and trigraphs. Please check your child's book bag daily for phonic and tricky word homework. Alongside learning single letter phonemes, we will practise the correct letter formation. Please support your child with this, ensuring they hold their pencil correctly and start each letter in the correct place. The children will have opportunities to write for different purposes including letters, cards, messages and party lists.

## MATHEMATICS

This term we will be counting and recognising numerals. The children will sing number rhymes and songs. Through number stories, class counting sessions and a wide variety of different activities the children will be counting from 0 - 20 forwards and backwards. They will explore pattern and shape and be encouraged to use mathematical language in their play. We will look at shapes and pattern in our school environment and when we visit the church. We will use natural objects such as conkers and fir cones to make patterns. We will also learn about shapes and pattern through the story of Elmer and the festival of Diwali. Linked to Christmas post, the children will compare weights and shapes of different parcels. We will be encouraging children to talk about numbers within the environment and use language such as 'before' and 'after' when sequencing them. The children will also be learning about money when they go to the sorting office.



## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

The children will have the opportunity to work with a range of different technology including computers, iPads, Bee-bots and CD players. The children will learn about the Christian Festivals of Harvest and Christmas. They will visit St. Mary's Church look at why Christians perform the nativity at Christmas. There will be a focus week on the festival of Diwali where the children will have the opportunity to learn how people celebrate in different ways. We will look at signs of autumn and how our environment changes at this time of year.

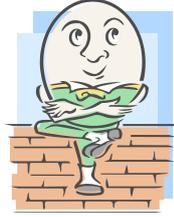
## EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

The children will be able to explore and express themselves using a variety of materials such as paint, pastels, clay, dough, pencils etc. The children will learn to sing nursery rhymes and other songs and have an opportunity to play a range of percussion instruments, exploring the sounds they make. They will be learning to clap rhythms and be encouraged to keep a steady pulse. Through dance the children will be able to express their creative ideas. Role play and Drama will be used to stimulate imaginations and also develop Speaking and Listening and Social skills.



## THINGS TO DO AT HOME

We appreciate your support and here are some ways that you can help at home.



- ~ Sing nursery rhymes
  - ~ Share books.
  - ~ Practise putting socks and tights on independently, doing up zips and buttons on coats
  - ~ When out and about - what numerals/letters can you see?
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- ~ Practise cutting out pictures from old magazines.
  - ~ Ask your child to retell one of their favourite stories.
  - ~ Evidence has shown that children who read daily at home make greater progress; please make time to hear your child read.
  - ~ See school website for more home learning ideas.
  - ~ Share WOW moments with us regularly.



We look forward being in partnership with you to ensure your child reaches their full potential.