



<p><b>Key Dates</b>                  09/11/23 Hand Hygiene                  11/11/23 Remembrance Day                  13/11/23 Anti-Bullying Day                  16/11/23 Open Morning                  17/11/23 Children in Need                  07/12/23 Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day                  14/12/23 Nativity                  18/12/23 Christmas Party Day</p>	 <h1>Reception</h1>  <h2>Oak &amp; Maple</h2> <p>Mrs Sawyer, Miss Jukes, Mrs Khan</p>	<p>Our topic this half term is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Celebration!</p> 
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**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

*Whilst learning about celebrations such as Bonfire Night, we will be learning about safety around fireworks and fire. We will be continuing to embed our school expectations and behaviour policy. The children will also be encouraged to articulate the importance of hygiene when taking part in food experiences, such as making roti for Diwali and eating snack. The school nurse will be visiting to teach us about hand hygiene.*



**English**

This half term we will be learning about the story of Rama and Sita and the Nativity by re-enacting these in the classroom and describing key characters, settings and events. We will also be reading 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson and a variety of non-fiction texts about Bonfire Night and Diwali. Ensuring the children can form recognisable letters will be our focus and we will be encouraging them to make anticlockwise movements and retrace vertical lines when forming these.



**Physical Development**

The children have particularly struggled with getting changed into puddlesuits outdoors so we will continue to practise this. We will also be using our PE equipment to create obstacle courses for the children to travel through in different ways. We will continue to practice using cutlery independently as well as using pincer/tripod grid to handle tools such as glue spreaders and paintbrushes effectively.



**Communication and Language**

*The children will be introduced to new vocabulary linked to different celebrations and be encouraged to use this new vocabulary independently during play. We will also be retelling events from Stickman and be encouraged to speak in front of a small group to share their ideas.*



**Understanding the World**

We will continue to explore maps, including UK and world maps and look at where India and London are. We will also be learning about what and how different families celebrate with a focus on Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. We will also be looking at people and places from the past, e.g. Guy Fawkes.



**RE**

**Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?**

The children will be learning all about the Nativity story as well as rehearsing for our Nativity performance in December.

**Maths**

Our numbers for this half term are 4 and 5! The children will be exploring representing these numbers in different ways, comparing them to other numbers, learning double facts to 5 as well as understanding how they can be broken into parts. We will support and encourage the children to recall these number bonds automatically and use these to work out subtraction problems. We will also be looking closely at patterns, e.g. which numbers we can share equally or not up to 5 as well as repeating patterns. During Christmas celebrations, we will also be supporting the children to describe 2D and 3D shapes using mathematical language.



**Key information**

**No jewellery should be worn in school.** If your child has their ears pierced, please make sure they are removed or taped up on PE days. PE Day - Monday  
Please bring a clear named water bottle to school every day.

**Expressive Arts & Design**

We will be exploring how colours change when mixed and practice using tools to make patterns and changes to models such as clay diya lamps. We are also so excited to learn and perform Christmas Nativity songs, matching pitch and following melodies.



**Phonics**

Week 1: ff, ll, ss, j  
Week 2: v, w, x, y  
Week 3: z, zz, qu ch & words with s at the end, e.g. hats, sits.  
Week 4: sh, th, ng, nk  
Week 5: words ending s/z/ (his) and with s/z/ added at the end (bags)  
 Tricky words: **as, has, his, go, no, into, she, he, of, we, me, be**

**Reading and Homework:**

Please continue to add wow moments from home on to Tapestry. We share this on our big screen with the children and they are just so proud when they get to share their home learning experiences with their friends. Homework activities (on separate homework sheet) can be completed once a week and also uploaded on to Tapestry. These are simply opportunities for you to talk to your child about their learning at school, support your children's knowledge of our current topic at home and support skills we are focusing on this half term. Please encourage your child to read their reading book daily (following planning sessions that are detailed inside the front cover of reading books if possible) and record in your child's reading record each time you read. These help them to decode, develop fluency, understand, discuss and love reading!