

Physical Development

Fine motor

- Threading, Weaving, playdough
- Drawing lines and circles – gross motor
- Rainbow writing
- Preference for dominant hand
- Letter formation – Little Wandle rhymes
- Holding scissor with opening and closing scissors and pushing towards a piece of paper.

Gross Motor

- Cooperation games
- Climbing – crate play
- Different ways of moving to be explored with children.
- Ball skills- throwing and catching.
- Opportunities to explore a range of wheeled resources for children to balance, sit or ride on, or pull and push.

Understanding the World

This term, we are exploring the past and present by looking at how we have changed from babies into children, while comparing life "now and then" through old-fashioned and modern hygiene tools. Through stories like the Nativity and Rama and Sita, we are comparing Christmas and Diwali, exploring how light is used as a symbol in candles and diyas, and learning about other light traditions like Hanukkah to grow respect for different beliefs. We love sharing our own family customs, festive clothes, and special foods, and are learning about community helpers like doctors, dentists, and nurses who keep our bodies healthy. Finally, we are exploring the natural world by observing the transition from Autumn to Winter and using our senses to explore grains, festival spices, and lantern materials. By cooking porridge and vegetable soup, we are learning how heat changes textures and how materials transform between liquids and solids.

Expressive Arts and Design

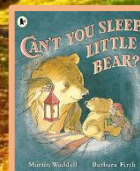
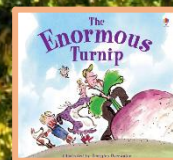
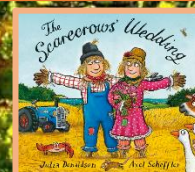
We are learning to express ourselves creatively through hands-on materials and imaginative play. By observing ourselves in mirrors, we use continuous lines and shapes to draw "healthy" faces, while using clay, foils, and cellophanes to design glowing lanterns. We practice joining card, wood, and fabric to build 3D "Healthy Meal" models and festival decorations and collaborate on large sand and rice floor patterns. Through role-play and small world, we retell stories like the Nativity or Rama and Sita. Finally, we explore "Healthy Rhythms" by mimicking heartbeats with drums and voices, and express ourselves through festive dances, building confidence as we perform together.

Literacy

To launch our love of Literacy, we are immersing the children in their favourite stories through Drawing Club. The children will learn "extraordinary words" and discover how to create their own characters and settings. We will build their "pencil magic" (grip and control) using pre-writing patterns, large-scale drawings, and Little Wandle letter formation rhymes. As the children realise their marks have meaning, they will move from drawing to writing "secret codes." This magic code will evolve into writing initial sounds, CVC words, labels, and simple recipes - using the phonics sounds they learn in class to power up their writing!

Communication and Language

This term, the children will bring tales to life by joining in with the famous pulling refrain of The Enormous Turnip, practicing sequencing, and answering "what, where, and why" questions. Through Funnybones and The Scarecrow's Wedding, they will dive into expressive role-play - complete with a vegetable shop area! Finally, we will follow simple recipes and instructions to explore special celebrations like Diwali, using rich story vocabulary to build confidence and imagination every step of the way.



Planning Overview

Autumn '26 – Our Roots

Base 1 – Reception – Mrs Evans

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we are focusing on building strong friendships, kindness, and teamwork! Through our *myHappymind* units (**Meet Your Brain**, **Celebrate**, and **Appreciate**), the children will learn to talk about emotions, share opinions, and confidently ask for help. We will practice turn-taking, understanding fairness, and resolving small conflicts with support. Best of all, we will team up for fun group challenges - like working together to act out moving something heavy from our stories - to learn what it truly means to show empathy and cooperate as a team!

Maths

In Number this term we will follow the Mastering Number Scheme from NCETM covering:

- identifying when a set can be subitised and when counting is needed
- make different arrangements of numbers within 5
- spot smaller numbers 'hiding' inside larger numbers
- Connect quantities and numbers to finger patterns and explore different ways of representing numbers on their fingers
- hear and join in with the counting sequence
- compare sets of objects by matching

In Numerical Pattern we will be:

- Comparing size, mass and capacity
- Circles, triangles and four-sided shapes
- Positional language
- Exploring pattern
- Time