Reception: Autumn 2: Darkness into light.

Dear Parents,

Here are some of the activities we will be covering in Reception this half-term. This overview does not include everything that we will be do our topics will be child initiated, but hopefully it will give you an insight into some of the learning which will be taking place. Learning will take plac side of the classroom and through community opportunities, including walks in the local countryside.

Physical Development

Children will continue to develop their gross motor skills through PE lessons and outdoor learning, helping improve their balance, coordination and control. Fine motor skills will be strengthened through activities such as cutting, threading, playdough and writing tasks. We will encourage children to develop hand strength, pencil control and letter formation to support their writing

Communication Language and Literacy

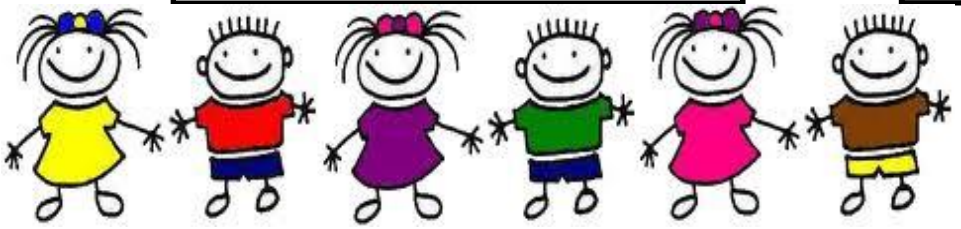
Children will develop their speaking and listening skills through stories, nursery rhymes and role-play activities. They will learn and use new vocabulary linked to our topic, including light and dark, nocturnal animals, celebrations and winter. Children will be encouraged to ask questions.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

We will build friendships, learn to work together and explore feelings through stories, celebrations and role-play. Children will develop confidence, independence and resilience in their daily routines.
How their actions affect others.

Mathematics

Children will develop their understanding of number through counting, recognising and comparing numbers, subitising and exploring how numbers can be made in different ways. They will use practical resources to solve simple problems and investigate patterns, shapes and measures. Through play and adult-led activities, children will be encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking and apply their skills in meaningful contexts.



Literacy

Children will develop their reading and writing skills through daily Read Write Inc. lessons and stories linked to our topic, including *Owl Babies*, *Night Monkey, Day Monkey*, *Can't You Sleep Little Bear?*, *Stick Man* and *The Christmas Story*. They will practise recognising sounds, blending words and using their phonics knowledge in their writing, while developing comprehension through stories.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will create artwork inspired by fireworks, light and celebrations, including Jackson Pollock-style paintings and Rangoli patterns. They will also use music, dance and role-play to explore stories and events.

Understanding the World

Children will explore light and dark, looking at different light sources, shadows and how day changes into night. They study nocturnal animals, seasonal changes as we move into winter and how electricity helps us in everyday life. We will also explore the celebrations of Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas.