




# Diamonds Class Newsletter

Working together to

**inspire nurture empower**  
Autumn 2—November 2024

## Welcome Back & Updates

Hello Families and welcome back after the autumn break 

This half term we are celebrating '**Special Places**' and we will be following the story of a wonderful family as they celebrate **Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights** and as we lead up to **Christmas** (I can almost hear Santa's sleigh bells). This half term is jam packed full of wonderful, magical experiences and our family inspire session '**Winter Wonderland**' will be one of those moments.



I love this time of year, the season is changing, magic is in the air and Diamonds are super excited to explore '**candle making**' with Play-Doh, build our knowledge of other cultures by making '**Latkehs**' and our favourite part, decorating the **Christmas Tree!**

Please email with any questions or if you just need to reach me at [Katie.Brown@ivy.set.org](mailto:Katie.Brown@ivy.set.org) - Katie and the Diamonds team.

## Key Concepts and Knowledge

We will be incorporating a range of **Makaton** and **topic based language** including: **special, family, Christmas, different and candle**. This half term, we will be developing our **communication**, through a range of different ways, using our **communication boards** in all aspects of our day; **Phonics** to promote our verbal speech, using **PECs to chose more** of an activity and extending our learning through consistent use of now and next cards.




In **cognition** we will be looking at how we can progress our **switch skills** in different contexts, use our **problem solving skills** to identify how magnets work and in math we will be looking at **counting to and on from 6, begin to explore mass and capacity and to identify 2D shape**.

## Swimming

Swimming is on a **Monday** please make sure you send kit and spare **socks**.

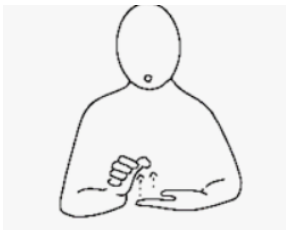
Please send swim kits in a separate bag to their school bag.

## Snack

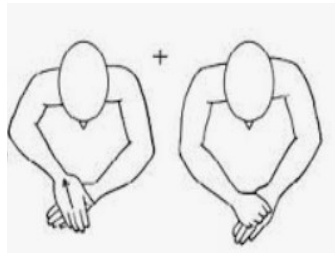
Just to remind families that snack is to be paid for via Parent Pay. If you have not yet set this up or need any help. Please let the office know. Alternatively, you can send a snack in from home. 

# Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

## Makaton



Candle



Christmas

### Special



## PSED/Physical

We are learning about '**Respectful Relationships**' in PSHE where we will be looking at families, friendship and special people.

Diamonds will be thinking about our **body parts**, exploring **consent** and understanding how we use consent.

**If you would like to discuss this topic further please email me or write a message in the diary.**



## Reading

Diamonds reading super stars will be changing their reading books on a Friday. When you read with your child at home, please fill in the diary. Lets have a fantastic year of reading. We will soon be using our new train library! Choo Choo!



## Expressive Arts

This half term in Expressive Art, we will be exploring **Art and DT**, where we will be exploring different **colour changing and reactions**.



Making stain glass windows linked the '**Star of David**' and creating Christmas cards for some very special people.

## Other Activities for Home!

It is always exciting to go out on an adventure. Why not explore the changes outside in the coming winter months? What new sounds can you hear? Does it smell different? Can you see any winter flowers?



Read some stories at home, these could be themed to do with our **topic** or just a really lovely book your child favours.

Enjoy yourself and have fun with the activities you do together. Don't forget to try to be more aware of your surroundings and encourage quiet listening, noticing visual changes, touching new textures, smelling scents around you and tasting different things!