

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Discuss our fears about the dark and what we could do to overcome those fears
- Discussing our likes and dislikes
- Talk about good feelings and bad feelings
- What can we do to look after our world?
- Discuss the shoe box appeal and why it's important
- Why do we share gifts at Christmas?
- Love and kindness, cheer and goodwill... what do these words mean?

Communication and Language

- Why is light important? What can you use to help you find things in the dark?
- Do all animals hunt for food in the daytime?
- Discuss how lights can warn us of danger
- What would you take to the moon and why?
- Story sequencing
- Talk about and listen to each other's experience of Christmas and their family traditions
- Describe how our families are preparing for Christmas
- Talk about Christmas and what it means to each of us

Literacy

- Phonics sounds; d, e, f, v, k, l, r, u, j, w, z
- High Frequency Words; for, of, are, was
- Initial sound recognition
- Segmenting
- Blending
- Phoneme Manipulation
- Letter formation
- Writing lists, labels, captions, short sentences and letters
- Texts;
The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark
Owl Babies
In the Middle of the Night
Whatever Next
Funny Bones
Oliver's Wood
The Cave
The Nativity Story
The Jolly Postman
Christmas themed books

Reception Autumn Term 2: Curriculum Overview **Light & Dark**



Fly me to the moon!

Sources of light

Night & Day animals

In the middle of the night!

Nocturnal animals

Christmas

Letters to Santa

The Nativity



Religious Education

- Birthday – Loving: Advent & Christmas

Mathematics

- Number formation
- Number songs and rhymes
- Representing, comparing and composing 4 & 5
- Circles & Triangles
- Rectangles and squares
- Night and Day
- Sequencing routines

Relationship and Health Education

- Emotional Wellbeing
- Life Cycles
- Religious Understanding
- Personal Relationships

Knowledge and Understanding the World

- Investigate shadows and telescopes
- Learn about different sources of light
- Discuss workers that work during the day to people that work at night
- Learn facts about space and the names of the planets
- Discuss the differences and similarities between the Moon and Earth
- Find out about other cultures and how they prepare for Christmas.
- Look at Christmas is celebrated around the world
- Look at how Father Christmas is portrayed in different countries

Physical Development

- Jump Start Jonny
- Weekly 'Finger Gym' activities
- Using cutlery competently at mealtimes
- Understand the importance of good personal hygiene; washing hands, coughing and sneezing into a tissue ECT.
- Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. E.g. pencils, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks etc.
- P.E – Gymnastics and Dance

Events

- Monday 10th November: Odd Socks Day to start off Anti-Bullying Week
- Friday 14th November: Children in Need
- Week beginning the 24th November: Parent Meetings/Stay and Play Sessions TBC
- Tuesday 2nd December: Coordination Challenge at the Urban Factory
- Friday 5th December: Walk to the Post Office
- Thursday 11th December: Infant Nativity 10:45am and 2:15pm
- Monday 15th December: Christmas Party
- Tuesday 16th December: Customs House Pantomime
- Friday 19th December: Break up for the Christmas holidays. Return to school on Monday 5th January 2026

Creative Development

- Firework pictures by blow painting
- Shadow puppets
- Owl collages
- Handprint hedgehogs
- Autumn trees
- To learn about and recreate Vincent Van Gogh's painting called, 'A Starry Night'
- Planet marbelling
- Explore colour mixing
- Christmas cards
- Advent wreaths
- Snowmen handprint baubles
- Christmas stars

Music - Charanga: My Stories

Learning Focus:

- Listening and responding to different styles of music
- Embedding foundations of the interrelated dimensions of music
- Learning to sing or sing along with nursery rhymes and action songs
- Improvising leading to playing classroom instruments
- Share and perform the learning that has taken place

Things we will need to support teaching and learning

- Homework sheets demonstrate the correct ways to form letters.
- Book bags and homework folders to be in school every day
- Practise name writing
- Practise sounding out words (segmenting) and blending the sounds together to say the word. E.g. c-a-t = cat
- Practise sounds and words in purple books every day
- Encourage the children to dress and undress as independently as possible

Thank you for your continued support
Miss Dixon & Mrs Hill