

St Thomas More R.C. Primary – Early Years
What I am Learning – Autumn 2 – Traditional Tales and Christmas



Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication & Language	This half term we will be continuing to develop our listening skills through circle time activities. We will be talking about 'Traditional Tales' over this half term, focussing on the stories 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Gingerbread Man, The Three Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Hood.' We will also share lots of other 'Traditional Tales' during the half term. We will be encouraging the children to talk about, sequence and join in with the stories and we will be describing the characters and story settings. We will also be using vocabulary associated with 'Traditional Tales' and focussing on how the stories are structured. We will be discussing different festivals and celebrations e.g. Bonfire Night, birthdays, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas looking at how we and others celebrate these. Towards Christmas, our 'small world' area will reflect the story of the First Christmas and the children will develop their understanding of this special time through play.	Mathematics	Nursery – We will be continuing our daily maths sessions following the White Rose Maths Scheme. This half term we will be focussing on repeating patterns, positional language and space and the early stages of seeing quantities of numbers (subitising). Reception – We will continue our daily maths sessions following the NCETM scheme. This half term we will be focussing on counting objects accurately, subitising, using objects to represent numbers and quantities and we will begin to introduce children to the part whole model.
Physical Development	We will be continuing to focus upon develop the children's fine and gross motor skills through our Dough Disco, Wiggle me into a Squiggler and Squiggle while you Wiggle sessions and through different activities linked to our theme – e.g. drizzling and sprinkling glue/glitter for Bonfire Night, Remembrance paintings and collaging bears. We are encouraging the children to take responsibility for their belongings and independently manage their coats, belongings and we would really appreciate your support at home in encouraging the children with these self-help skills.	Understanding the World	We will continue to look at changes in our environment and discuss them. We will be discussing/learning lots more about different Festivals and Celebrations – Bonfire Night, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. We will be discussing the different celebrations that we and other communities have and how these are celebrated. We will also be continuing to develop our Technology skills and using different equipment e.g. iPad's, Interactive Whiteboard.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	We will continue to reinforce our positive class rules and boundaries. We will continue with circle time activities, modelling positive behaviours/friendships and discussing different aspects of our feelings. We will be exploring our three school rules in more detail – Ready, Respectful & Safe. Through our Religion work, we will be learning more about how we welcome people into our own and God's family (including Baptisms) and we will learn about Advent and how people celebrate Jesus' birthday each year. We will also be accessing our weekly 'MyHappyMind' sessions. This half term we will be finding out about our brains, the jobs they do and 'Team HAP' – talking about things that make us happy/sad.	Expressive Arts & Design	We will be creating our Firework Pictures by drizzling glue, using paint in different ways and we will explore different artists and their techniques and style of work. We will also be exploring a variety of media and materials and using these in our independent work. We will be working on our Nativity Worship during this half term and learning lots of new songs for our performance!
Literacy	We will be exploring lots of key texts during this half term linked to our theme. We will be talking about stories, the characters, settings and we will be encouraging the children to join in, sequence and re-tell the stories. We will be looking closely at the different characters in the stories and talking about them. We will also be focussing on learning lots of new words and phrases linked to our theme and we will be encouraging the children to use these in their play. We will be exploring different mark making and writing opportunities this half term linked to our theme e.g. mark making and writing about the character Goldilocks, making lists of ingredients for making gingerbread and we will be talking, mark making and writing about	RE	During this half term, we will be learning more about how we welcome people into our own and God's family (including Baptisms) and we will learn about Advent, The First Christmas and how people celebrate Jesus' birthday each year.

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	the First Christmas. Nursery children will continue indiscreet phonics - Phase 1, focussing on exploring 'instrumental sounds.' Reception children will continue with their daily RWI Phonics sessions - links to the RWI Virtual Classroom sessions to support the daily lesson added to Tapestry weekly.		
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