Topic Overview for Parents
Term- Autumn 2

Welcome to our new topic, **'Let's Explore!'**

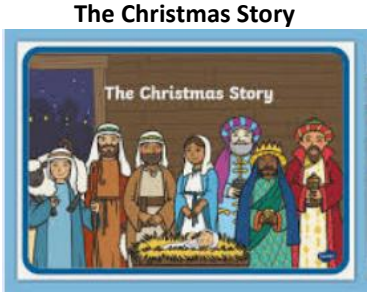
In this topic we will be exploring and learning about space, transport as well as comparing different environments on Earth.



Rationale

It is time to embark on a journey of discovery about the world around us. We will be going on a pretend bus adventure, learning about different forms of transport as well as comparing different environments around the world.

TOPIC	Enquiry question	Sparkly Starter
Let's Explore Journeys, transport and around the world	Where can we go? What could we see?	**A role-play bus journey!** Writing focus: Writing names on their own tickets and the number bus they want to catch.

Story Maker	Key Literature	Fab finish
The Christmas Story 	**The Christmas Story- Story Maker** Way back home Q Pootle Aliens love underpants Whatever Next! The World Came to My place Today The snail and the whale Look up My pet star	**Christmas performance** *(more details to follow)*

Literacy In Literacy this half term we will be reading different stories with rhyme and rhythm. We will be continuing our *Read, Write Inc*. phonics sessions. As part of the programme the emphasis is on the children learning at their own level and pace. Therefore, we will be beginning to set the children into differentiated groups according to their current stage of learning. The groups are flexible, with the idea that children move up a group as soon as they are ready. If you have any questions about this, please speak to your class teacher.	**Creative Arts and PSHCE** In our creative areas this half term the children will be taught how to select and use various construction materials to build and create models, pictures and collages. We will be exploring different textures and learning to describe them using our senses. In PSHCE 'SCARF' sessions the children will looking at 'Valuing Differences'. The children will think about what makes them special and unique, learning that we all have similarities and differences which should be recognised and valued.
Maths During this term the children will be extending their knowledge of number, shape and spatial awareness. Children will be working with the numbers 1-10, learning how to identify representations of those numbers, make comparisons between them, match number names to numerals and quantities, find the number that is one more or one less and explore the composition of each number. The children will also be taught how to use their reasoning skills to problem solve.	**Understanding the World** The children will be exploring space and finding out about significant people and events. They will be learning how to compare and contrast environments by looking at features in their local areas and those in other parts of the world. The children will then be talking about what they have observed by looking closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
Physical Development This half term we will be doing gymnastics, followed by ball skills. The children will be learning how to negotiate space and obstacles safely while demonstrating strength, balance and coordination.	

Home learning

It has been fantastic to see so many children reading regularly and completing their phonics home learning (uploaded by the teachers to Tapestry each week). We collect in folders on Thursdays to give us time to put in the new home learning ready to go home with your child on Fridays.

Tapestry

Home learning will be uploaded onto Tapestry each week by the teachers. The focus will be on the sounds we have covered so far, blending to read, segmenting to spell, letter formation and reading green words. Any completed work you would like to share with us can be uploaded onto Tapestry for us to see. If children move onto reading sentence level texts, their home learning will look different (details of this will be sent home with their new texts when they start).

DoodleMaths

The 'DoodleMaths' app enables your child to complete maths challenges at home and there are prizes awarded for the stars your child earns.

Other Information

Reading books and reading records

- Please ensure reading records are always kept in book bags. Reading books are collected in on Mondays and new books are reissued on Tuesdays.

Dates for this term

Monday 2nd November - First day back after half term break.

Monday 23rd November- INSET (school closed)



Christmas Performance
Monday 7th December 2026

(Details to follow soon)

Thursday 17th December- last day of term before the Christmas break

Friday 18th December- INSET (school closed)

Many thanks for your continued support

The Reception Team

