

Celebrations!

Year R Curriculum
Autumn Term 2



Welcome to a vibrant new term in EYFS, our theme is Celebrations! This term, we'll explore various festivities and the different ways we celebrate together, beginning with fireworks and Diwali.

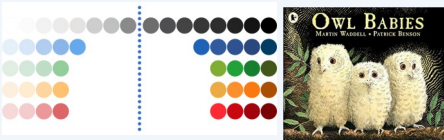


To celebrate fireworks, children will create stunning firework art using pastels, paints, and chalk. This will give them a chance to explore and discuss colours, sounds, and patterns. We'll then continue our theme of celebrations in Drawing Club, where we'll read *Cake* by Sue Hendra to explore birthday traditions.

We'll also watch the 1950s Cinderella film to discuss different family structures and enjoy learning about balls, parties, and weddings.



Later this half term we will be using the story of Owl Babies to support our learning about night and day and nocturnal animals. The children will be thinking about what they do in the day and at night. In art, we will be learning to mix dark and light shades.



Winter and Christmas

As we come closer to the end of this half term, our learning will shift to embrace **Winter** and **Christmas** themes. We'll dive into festive stories, including *The Gingerbread Man*, where children will imagine and invent new characters and we hope to be able to make a few. Our journey will continue with *One Snowy Night* and classic Christmas stories to complete this term's theme.

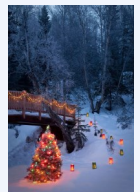
Christmas Past: Toys Through Time

To bring history to life, we'll be looking at **toys from Christmases long ago** and discussing how they differ from today's toys. We'll explore the **materials** they were made from and how toys have evolved, helping children develop an appreciation for **traditions** and **craftsmanship** over time.



Winter Weather

We'll begin by observing the changes in weather and discussing how it differs from Autumn. This will give children a chance to understand seasonal patterns, talk about cold weather clothing, and explore the natural world as it changes around us.



Christmas Celebrations Around the World

The children will learn about the different ways people **celebrate Christmas** and other winter holidays around the world. Through stories, songs, and art, the children will explore **festive traditions** and build an understanding of diverse **cultural practices**.

Important Dates:

15th November—school photos

12th December—Nativity performance for parents at 2.15pm

13th December—Nativity performances for parents at 9.30am

19th December—Christmas Dinner, Christmas Jumper and Christmas Party day.

20th December—Christmas panto and school finishes 1.10pm

More information about our Christmas celebrations above, including class parties and Santa visit will be sent out closer to the time.

Celebrations!

Phonics & Reading

Phase 2 grapheme information sheet

Grapheme and sound	Phonics card	Phonics card	Phonics card
s s s			
a a a			
t t t			
p p p			
i i i			
n n n			
m m m			

The children are all taking part in a daily phonics session. Phonics is the main way that we teach spelling and reading at school. Please spend some time reading the books sent home with your child. They will bring home two books each week — a library book for you to read to them and a school reading book for them to read to you. We track the children's phonic knowledge carefully and as soon as they know a certain amount of letter sounds and can sound talk and blend, they will bring home a book with words matched to this phonic knowledge. We have uploaded several videos and links about our phonics scheme 'Little Wandle' onto Tapestry so please log into your Tapestry account to view them if you haven't already. Please ensure that your child has their book bag with their reading record and reading book in school EVERYDAY. Thank you.

Tapestry & Friend for the weekend

Starting this half term, your child will have the opportunity to bring the class toy home for the weekend. The toy will come home in a bag with an instruction card of what to do. We ask you to take some photos of your child with the class toy and upload these to Tapestry for your child to share with their friends in class please. If you have not activated your Tapestry account, please do so ASAP and ask your class teacher if you need help.

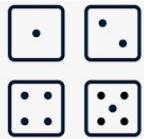
Maths

This half term, we will focus on building essential early numeracy skills. Children will practice counting skills with one-to-one correspondence (tag each object) and begin verbally counting beyond 20 to strengthen their number sequence understanding.



We'll explore the 'five-ness' of 5 using one hand and the die pattern for 5, helping children recognize the number in different contexts.

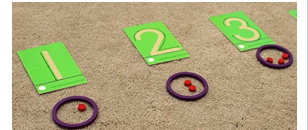
They will also learn to compare sets of objects, using language like "more than," "fewer than," and "an equal number."



Children will explore whole and part concepts, learning how numbers like 5 can be made from smaller parts (e.g., $4 + 1$ or $3 + 2$). We'll also focus on the composition of numbers 3, 4, and 5 to help them understand how these numbers can be broken into different combinations.



Through hands-on activities, children will count objects accurately up to 10 and match numerals to quantities. By the end of the term, they will have a deeper understanding of numbers 3, 4, and 5, be able to compare sets, and confidently count beyond 20.



In our shape learning, we will explore circles and triangles, using the work of artist Wassily Kandinsky to inspire our creativity. We will also learn about shapes with 4 sides, focusing on squares and rectangles. This will help children recognise and describe shapes in their environment.



PE

The children will continue to have weekly PE lessons on the following days. Please ensure that all earrings are removed.

Fox and Mole Class—Thursdays

Badger and Squirrel Class—Tuesdays

Rabbit and Hedgehog Class—Thursdays

Please ensure earrings are removed or taped on these days. Thank you

Class teachers' emails

n.osborn@talavera-inf.hants.sch.uk (Early Years Leader and Fox and Mole)

e.robinson@talavera-inf.hants.sch.uk (Rabbit and Hedgehog)

s.huckfield@talavera-inf.hants.sch.uk (Badger and Squirrel)