



Little Acorns

Autumn term 2 2024-25



Communication, language and literacy

We will listen to a variety of stories, songs and rhymes for interest and enjoyment. We will read some of them many times so that we become really familiar with them such as Whatever Next and Stick Man. The children will be encouraged to role play and retell these in their own activities and also to invent their own versions to entertain others. We will continue to develop vocabulary through books and stories and encourage children to ask and answer questions about what they have seen and heard.

The children will also continue with Phase 2 phonics. As well as continually recapping the GPCs and words they know they will learn new phonemes and the graphemes that represent that sound. They will then use them in reading CVC words, as well as learning to read some more words from the tricky word list. We will also continue to write CVC words and learn to form all our letters correctly. We will keep practising writing our name and think about writing for a purpose as we celebrate different festivals eg. writing cards, invitations and lists etc.



Expressive arts and design

We will continue to practise our basic skills such as paint mixing, cutting, joining and observational drawings. We will also do lot of seasonal crafts and activities connected to the festivals we learn about eg. Diva lamps, poppies and Christmas decorations. We will continue to sing rhymes and songs as well as develop our ability to listen and respond to different kinds of music. Our Christmas performance will give us an opportunity to dance and sing on the stage with KS1 and we hope you will join us as our live audience!

Mathematics



We will be looking at the numbers 1 – 5 and learning to recognise them in many different representations, compare them and think about their composition (all the different ways of making each number). This isn't as simple as it may sound and we are happy to chat to you at any time about how maths is taught in the early years.. We will also be learning to use the language of "one more and one less". Our shape work is all about circles, triangles and 4 sided shapes and we will be looking at positional language too.

Personal, social and emotional development

We will be thinking about sharing and how to consider the feelings of others as well as being able to express own own feelings.



Understanding the world



We will be talking about festivals and celebrations. These will include Birthdays, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance and Christmas.

Physical development



In our weekly PE lessons we will be learning about fundamental skills including: balancing, jumping, hopping, stopping and changing direction. When we are in our outside provision area we encourage all the children to engage in activities which will improve their gross motor skills such as moving and building with large wooden blocks and crates, using the outdoor obstacle course equipment and riding bikes and scooters. Our fine motor skills will be developed with regular activities to help us with pencil control and handwriting.

Key dates:

Fri 15th Nov 2.45pm – Reception and KS1 assembly
Fri 15th Nov – Children in Need Day (see newsletter for more info)
Mon 18th and Tues 19th Nov – Baubles on sale for PTFA Christmas Baubles competition
Mon 25th Nov – 3.30pm Mental Health and Wellbeing information session for parents (whole school)
Fri 29th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day (bring something red as a donation for PTFA Christmas hamper – see newsletter for more info). Baubles for the PTFA competition to be returned by this date.
Fri 29th Nov - 2.45pm - Rec/KS1 celebration assembly
Fri 6th Dec – Secret Santa – more info to follow (watch out on the newsletter)
Weds 11th Dec – 10.00am and 2.00pm - Rec/KS1 Christmas production – more info to follow (watch out on the newsletter)
Thurs 12th Dec – Christmas Dinner Day
Fri 13th Dec – (morning) Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree – more info to follow (watch out on the newsletter)
Thurs 19th Dec – School closes for Christmas
Fri 22nd Dec – Training Day – school closed to children
Mon 6th Jan – School re-opens

*******The date for our Christmas Party has not yet been arranged – we will advise as soon as we have this info*******

And finally....

We had a wonderful (long!) first half-term together and all the children have settled back in nicely this week after a week away. Thank you so much for helping your Little Acorns to become independent and confident little people who follow our routines and listen carefully to instructions.

Snack money – thank you to those who contributed in the first half term. We need to go shopping for more snacks now though so if you are able to contribute for this half term then please send **£7** in an envelope and pop it into book bags. Thank you, it really helps!

If you have any questions, queries, concerns or wish to share any information with me then please get in touch via the office: office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk or via my email address: j.kenny@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk

Mrs Kenny

