



Topic Learning Letter

Early Years

Topic	<p>Our topic this half term is <i>Adventures of the Night</i>. We will be learning all about night and day, nocturnal animals, emergency services and the night sky.</p>
Launch and Land	<p>We will launch our topic with a visit from the Owl Raptor Foundation where we will get up close to different birds, learn interesting facts and get a chance to see them fly.</p> <p>We will land the topic by having a pyjama party which will include a 'bedtime' story and Christmas film whilst enjoying a hot chocolate.</p>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	<p>In PSED this half-term, we will continue to discuss how to take turns, and how to manage our feelings when things do not go to plan. In addition, we will also have a special visitor, a dental nurse, who will support the children's understanding on good oral health. To promote oral hygiene, we will be brushing our teeth at the pyjama party.</p> <p>In Jigsaw, our PSHE programme, we will be considering what we are good at, how we are special and all about our families- with a focus on celebrating difference.</p>
Communication and Language	<p>We will continue to promote speaking and listening across our provision. Our home area will continue to be developed – it will be decorated to reflect Diwali and then Christmas. When studying night workers, we will provide opportunities for small world and role play involving the emergency services e.g. police and fire service. In directed tasks, children are always encouraged to talk with their peers, and we celebrate and listen to every voice. Our Christmas play will also provide many opportunities for speaking and listening.</p>
Physical Development	<p>We will have 2 PE sessions, the first session will be exploring a variety equipment and working on our spatial awareness.</p> <p>The second session will be with your child's class teacher, focussing on dance and yoga.</p> <p>This term our PE slots continue to be Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon. Your child will need to come to school wearing their full PE kit for these sessions.</p>
Expressive Arts and Design	<p>We will spend time exploring Van Gogh's <i>Starry Night</i> and create our own night sky pictures. We will also explore and use a range of different materials to create collages of an owl. In addition, we will listen to lullabies and use instruments to make our own calm and gentle music.</p>
Understanding the World	<p>We will begin by learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali. Next, we will learn about day and night, light and dark, nocturnal animals, and the different roles of night workers. In addition to this we will focus on why Christians celebrate Christmas, the nativity at Christmas and explore what people do in church at Christmas. We will end by focusing on Christmas and considering how it is celebrated in countries around the world.</p>
English	<p>In English we will explore rhyming and poetry through looking at different versions of <i>Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star</i>. We will also explore the story <i>Owl Babies</i> by Martin Waddell and use this as basis for storytelling, drama, and writing. We will continue to practice our letter formation and name writing in addition to using colourful semantics to help understand the concept of 'what' and 'where'.</p>

Maths	<p>We will begin by learning about 2D shapes, exploring their properties and how they can be used to make other shapes.</p> <p>We will then continue to explore numbers to 5; counting accurately; looking at composition e.g., knowing that 5 can be made of 3 and 2. We will also extend our work on more than/ fewer than by matching items to each other and introduce the concept of equality (the same amount).</p>
Reminders	<p>Daily, please continue to read aloud story books to your child in addition to hearing them read their phonics book. Please check that your child's coat, jumper, and shoes are named – it is impossible for us to return mislaid items if they are not named. Thank you.</p>

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please talk to one of the Early Years Team.