



Moorside Community Primary Academy - Theme Overview

Year: Reception Half Term: 2 Theme: Festivals and Celebrations

Key Learning

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| 1 | K&U | The chn will begin to discuss, comment and ask questions about their familiar world, investigating and talking about plants, weather and animals. |
| 2 | Maths | Add two one digit numbers together by counting. |
| 3 | Maths | Understand and use positional language |
| 4 | Maths | Recognise and represent numbers to 10 |
| 5 | Literacy | Begin to read and write a range of phase 2 cvc words. |
| 6 | P&C | To explore Christmas, Harvest, bonfire night and Diwali and compare the differences and similarities to what we celebrate. |
| 7 | Literacy | To begin to form a wide range of letters correctly. |
| 8 | K&U | To explore and investigate floating, sinking and melting. |
| 9 | PSED | To continue to follow the class golden rules. |
| 10 | CLL | To discuss what happened in a familiar story. |
| 11 | PSED | To become more independent. |

Key People/Places/Facts

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| 1 | Family | Linking to P&C and how we celebrate the different festivals. |
| 2 | Winter | Looking at the similarities, differences and changes from Autumn to winter. |
| 3 | Diwali | Explore the festival of light and discuss similarities and differences to the festivals that we celebrate |
| 4 | Christmas | How do we celebrate Christmas and why? |
| 5 | Jesus | Explore the Nativity story |
| 6 | Oliver Jeffers | Author of our class Novels this half term. |
| 7 | Harvest | What happens at Harvest festival? |
| 8 | Rami and Sita | Famous during the Diwali festival. |
| 9 | North Pole | Linking to our Christmas theme |
| 10 | Moorside | Still focusing on our school and the rules and ethos. |

Vocabulary

| Similarities | Differences |
|--------------|-------------|
| Festival | Diwali |
| Nativity | Christmas |
| Frosty | Celebration |
| floating | melting |
| glistening | festive |
| Sparkle | Freezing |
| Joyful | Rangoli |
| Winter | Feast |
| Firework | Wishes |
| crackle | Pattern |

Big Questions

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| 1 | Why do seasons change? | |
| 2 | Do all people celebrate the same festivals? | |
| 3 | What is my favourite festival and why? | |
| 4 | How does your family celebrate Christmas/ Jehovah? | |
| 5 | Are all festivals the same? | |

Communication and Language

The children will have many opportunities to develop speaking and listening such as, talking about their interests, questioning and discussions. The staff will model effective communication and listening skills when having a conversation.

Can children demonstrate good listening skills during a story?

Do children have an understanding of a story?

Which children can understand humour, nonsense rhymes and jokes?

The class will use a range of puppets and props to retell stories and create their own narratives.

Talk Time/ shared read

Children will take part in daily talk sessions, they will learn a range of vocabulary, comprehension, questioning, rhyme, poetry, sequencing and descriptive language. We will also have a daily word of the day.

MFL

This half term the class will learn how to greet and say good bye to people in French along with learning the names of different colours in French.

Expressive Arts and Creativity

Art

Children will explore colour within this topic along with choosing colours for a particular purpose and experimenting with different textures. Children will have the opportunity to paint a range of pictures, collages and use clay to make Diwali lamps linked to the topic of celebrations. The children will also make firework powder paint pictures in the outdoor area as well as making and observing colours merging using ink and powder paint in the water and puddles outdoors.

Music/ DT

The class will explore instruments from a range of cultures and the sounds that they make along with singing songs, nursery rhymes and simple tunes.

The children will also have the opportunity to use puppets, small world toys and props to encourage them to engage in role play and introduce storylines.

The class will also have the opportunity to develop ideas and construct with a purpose in mind.

Physical Development

The class will discuss how to use play equipment safely and model this at every opportunity. The children will experiment with different ways of moving, throwing, jumping, running, catching etc this half term in PE. The class should begin to develop an awareness of space and consider others whilst moving around and playing.

Children will have the opportunity to develop their fine/ gross motor skills through a range of threading, painting, chalks, tweezers and malleable activities.

Children will be encouraged to hold their pencil correctly between finger and thumb and begin to show a preference to using a dominant hand. We will be working on pencil control and letter/ number formation daily.



Understanding of the World

The class will focus on the winter season looking at changes in the weather moving from autumn to winter, colours outdoors and animals. The class will investigate animals that hibernate in the winter and how they survive the winter conditions. Which animals live in the cold conditions? This will link to light and dark and how the light affects the way we see. The children will explore which animals are nocturnal and not nocturnal along with Polar animals. The class will also look at floating and sinking linked to the book Penguins holiday. They will investigate a range of materials, which materials float and sink and which materials are waterproof. The class will also learn about melting with a visit to the school kitchen to do some baking.

People and communities-

The children will begin to talk about past and present events in their own lives and begin to explore a range of festivals such as bonfire night, Diwali, and Christmas. The class will study different cultures and the differences and similarities in the festivals compared to ours (Great British Values). The children will read and discuss the nativity and Christmas story along with acting out their own infant nativity.

Understanding of the world- Technology

This half term we will explore our technology in class such as the laptop, cameras and bee bots. We will model how to use them effectively, carefully and safely. We will begin to load and use software.

The class will also have many opportunities to use the IWB independently along with the ICT suite.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term we will look back at our achievements in the first half term in Reception. The class will continue to build relationships in the class with staff and peers and there will be social groups focusing on effective communication in class along with a nurture group. We will use meditation and mindfulness during the delivery of our new Jigsaw scheme. We will focus on:

- Friendships and what makes a good friend.
- How we should treat others with respect.
- Using manners, when should we say please and thank you? Why do we use manners?
- Explore feelings, why do I feel sad, happy, and angry?
- Working with others, how to take turns, listening to others and listening to others and understanding other opinions.
- Taking care of resources and equipment.

SEALS- Getting on and falling out

The class will continue to focus on the skill of communication and the ways in which we can communicate effectively. We will discuss why we fall out and how we can rectify our mistakes and be better friends. We will talk about our emotions and how we feel in different situations and the ways in which we can resolve conflict. The class will focus on sharing and waiting for their turns in continuous provision. We will also discuss how to react to a range of situations.

Literacy

Reading/ Phonics

The children are now continuing on phase 2 phonics and the higher group will now move on to phase 3. The class will begin to join in with a range of poems and rhymes and also gain an understanding of rhyming words and repetition. The children will develop an understanding of basic reading skills, what is a word, letter, and sentence along with beginning to recognise a range of phase 2/3 sounds. The children will take part in a range of outdoor phonics hunts and storytelling outside. The class will develop phonetic strategies of blending in order to begin to read a range of simple words and also build knowledge of high frequency words on sight. The children will also read a range of exciting genres of books linking to Christmas and festivals. The class novels for this half term are The Snowman, Elmer and Aliens Love Underpants (Panta Claus). Children will bring in their own favourite books from home for show and tell and share them with the class along with developing comprehension skills about their favourite story, characters and making predictions.

Writing The class will take part in a wide range of writing and mark making activities linked to the class topic this half term. The class will explore poetry and interesting vocabulary linking to bonfire night and Halloween along with many activities linked to Diwali and Christmas such as letters, invitations, cards, lists, stories and poems.

There will be a wide range of mark making opportunities within continuous provision to focus on enhancing early writing skills both indoor and outdoor. Children will continue to develop their fine motor skills to increase pencil control and also practice pre cursive handwriting, letter formation and number formation on a daily basis and in intervention groups.

Mathematics

Mathematical Development

The class will continue to count to 10 and beyond looking at number formation and number recognition. Our number of the week will focus on numbers 8- 15. We will continue to represent objects with numbers as well as recognising numbers to 10 and then 20. The children will begin to count actions and objects that cannot be moved along with counting an irregular arrangement of objects that are not in a straight line. The class will be introduced to simple counting addition, new mathematical vocabulary. We will recap on identifying both 2D/ 3D shapes and begin to sort shapes using their properties. There will also be a focus on positional language this half term.

The continuous provision areas will be set up to provide many learning opportunities for maths along with contextualising maths in areas such as the role play area and construction area. Other areas of provision such as sand and water will be enhanced with a range of mathematical resources to encourage counting, mathematical vocabulary, capacity and problem solving. There will be a strong focus on the mastery of mathematics, ensuring children fully understand the context of number and the skills in which to use numbers to 10 this half term.