



# Moorside Community Primary Academy - Theme Overview

# Year: Nursery Term: Autumn 2 Theme: Festivals and celebrations

## Key Learning

1	Makaton	Learning basic signs such as good morning/afternoon, OK, please, thank you, good girl, good boy
2	Concentration in group activities	Nursery will begin to work in a small group for short periods of time, building up to full activities.
3	Sequencing a story	Using traditional tales to become familiar with beginning, middle and end, and fairytale language.
4	Tripod pencil grip	Mark making practise to encourage the correct pencil grip ready for letter formation.
5	Assisting in getting dressed	The children will be shown how to put coats on and zip them up, ready for the cold winter weather.
6	Sharing interests	Through Christmas lists, snack and story choices, discussion in small groups to develop sense of identity.
7	Enjoy and identify rhyme	Listening to rhyming stories and playing rhyming games that include rhyming strings.
8	Reading own name.	Completing name hunts outside of the nursery classroom.
9	Counting objects to 10	Practising hand correspondence and accuracy when counting objects to 10 .
10	Selecting particular 2D shapes	Identifying basic 2D shapes by their properties.
11	Preposition	Using pumpkins, witches, elves etc

## Key People/Places/Facts

1	Local Heroes	Inspirational people within school and the local community
2	Little Pigs	Rescued each other from the Big Bad Wolf
3	Big Bad Wolf	Exploring his personality and behaviour
4	Father Christmas/Santa Clause	Who is he? Why does he give out presents? Who helps him?
5	Bonfire Safety	How to remain safe around fires and fireworks.
6	Christmas Traditions	Does everybody celebrate Christmas?
7	Diwali	What is Diwali?
8		
9		
10		

## Big Questions

1	What is a hero?	Why is the Big Bad Wolf grumpy?
2	What is a villain?	Would you be a hero or a villain?
3	Who is Father Christmas?	What is Diwali?
4	Does everybody receive Christmas presents?	
5	How can we be kind to each other?	

## Vocabulary

St Nicholas	Rangoli
Hero	Patterns
Villain	Beginning
Terrified	Middle
Tradition	Ending
Concentrate	Order
Behaviour	predict
Special	
Receive	
Diwali	

### Communication and Language

During this term the Nursery children will be working on their concentration skills. The children will begin working in small groups for short periods of time.

- Build on their understanding of complex sentences. Adults model correct complex sentences such as 'tidy your toys and then we will read'.
- Work on answering and asking 'what, where, who' questions, using stories as a vehicle for learning.
- Practise re telling events in the correct order, through experiences such as nature walks, games, stories, role play, puppets etc. linking to this terms Literacy objectives of sequencing stories.
- introduce basic Makaton signs- good morning/afternoon, OK, please, thank you. This is to support the children in Nursery that have communication needs.

WELCOMM intervention continues.

### Expressive Arts and Creativity

- Sings a few familiar songs/Imitates movement in response to music- Nativity songs with actions.
- Creates simple representations of people, places or events- Halloween cards, bonfire night painting, Diwali patterns, Christmas cards, gifts, hats.
- The role play area is now Santa's workshop children are able to role play and have opportunities of interacting with other children.

### Physical Development

#### Fine motor skills-

- Drawing simple shapes such as circles and lines, encouraging choice of dominant hand and three finger pencil grip. This will link into Maths shape activities. Independence will be promoted through opportunities to practise feeding themselves with a spoon and drinking from a cup during snack time. Cooperation during dressing and undressing will be encouraged.
- Beginning to use the correct pencil grip through fine motor and mark making activities such as Christmas lists/cards, labelling their hero, copying letters from their name etc. putting on coats and own zipper
- Letter formation including anti-clockwise movements and retracing straight lines.

**Year: Nursery**  
**Term: Autumn**  
**2**  
**Theme:**  
**Festivals and**  
**celebrations**

*Weekly Themes: Halloween, Three Little Pigs, Diwali, Remembrance week, Hanukkah, The Big Bad Wolf, Christmas x3*

### Understand the World

- Learning about similarities and differences through cultural traditions like Halloween/Bonfire Night/Diwali/Christmas
- Remembering and talking about special events in their lives.
- Talks about how things work and why they happen- building three little pigs houses and testing if wind/rain proof.
- Exploring the season Winter and what natural changes occur during

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- express own preferences and interests through choices such as Christmas presents, snack time, story time etc.
- Cooperates with boundaries. The adults will be consistent in reinforcing the expectations in Nursery. The Christmas Elf will be used to support this.
- Share experiences- In small key person groups the children will be encouraged to talk about something that they like.
- Shown what responsibility is through small tasks like delivering Christmas cards, taking the register, being the class role model.
- Adapting to routine changes- routine changes happen regularly at Christmas and will create opportunities for the chn to become more comfortable with this.

Nurture groups for self-esteem, friendship skills etc. continue.

## Literacy

### Reading/Phonics

- Has some favourite stories, rhymes, jingles- listening to traditional tales and poems, and through Phase 1 phonics activities. The children are encouraged to express their interests.
- Fill in the missing words from familiar rhymes.
- Enjoys rhyming and rhythmic activities- the children will be introduced to rhyme through games such as witches silly soup, Christmas picture matching, fold up pictures.
- Be aware of how stories are structured- by ordering events from familiar stories, discussion of events for each section of the story, descriptions of illustrations, predicting endings to unfamiliar stories.
- Reading own name and familiar logos- name hunts around the school.

### Writing

- Distinguish between marks they make- by making Halloween and Christmas cards, and explaining what they have represented.
- Beginning to copy letters for Christmas cards, and other events in pictures to take home
- The children will continue name writing practise through activities such as shaving foam, finger painting, glitter writing, stickers etc.
- Writing Christmas lists/letters to Father Christmas.

Phonics will include a large amount of mark making, giving the chance for children to begin to recognise letters and words, as well as ascribing meaning to their own mark making. Phonics will also focus on the correct

## Mathematics

### Number

- Recites some number names in sequence- Numbers 1-5, through adult led and child led activities in provision. Some children will be focusing on numbers 1-10.
- Represents ideas of numbers.
- Beginning to count objects accurately, giving each object a number when touched- counting bears, elephants, people.
- Recognition of numbers beyond 5- numbered reindeer etc.
- Sometimes matches numeral and quantity correctly- numbers 1-5 (40-60 - 1-10) ladybird spots, apples on trees, presents in sack etc.
- Ordering numbers 1-5 with lolly sticks, train tracks, construction blocks etc.

### Shape, Space and Measure

- Notices simple shapes and beginning to categorise objects into shape- different shaped presents.
- Prepositions- over, under, behind, next to, in front- asking children to place teddy in different positions- identifying teddy's position.
- 2D shapes and their properties- through feely tubs, shape game, shaped sensory blocks etc.
- Shape patterns- simple two step patterns on scarves, xmas trees, baubles.