

## Term 2:

Our new topic will be 'Once upon a time!' leading into 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' to start our Christmas topic. Please look at the attached overview for this term.

The first week will be a maths week across the school, and we will be linking our maths work to patterns and shape to link in with learning about the festival of Diwali.

## Uniform:

Please check your child brings home the right jumpers or cardigans, as we have some children who are missing uniform. As the weather gets colder don't forget to send in named hats, scarves, gloves and wellies as we would like the children to be equipped to use the outdoor activities in all weather. Lost property with no name will be left in the cloakroom.

## A little plea...

Please can you check at home for any school books or toys that may have come home in book bags and not been returned... thank you!

We are also looking to replenish some of our resources and would like to ask if you are having a pre-Christmas clear out and have any of the following that you could donate...

- \* notebooks or novelty pens
- \* buckets and spades
- \* small plastic animals
- \* lego/duplo

Thanks in advance!

## Foundation

Mrs Ball and Mrs Dann

## Reading:

Your child should have started bringing home a reading book to share with you. These are our guided reading books, which we share during group reading time each week. We will collect these in on Tuesdays so please ensure all books are in the book bags ready to be returned. As the children become more confident having a go at reading themselves we will give them a book band label in their reading record. They can then go and choose a second book from the colour coded shelves in the infant library. These books can be changed with you at any time, and we will change them when we do our reading groups on Wednesdays. The coloured band label has some prompts for what skills we are looking for at each stage and can help you to talk about the book with your child.

## Nativity creative evening:

### **We need your help!**

We would like to invite you to come in to school on the evening of Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 6:30 to help us make some props and costumes for the nativity production. We will provide wine and nibbles and hope this will be a sociable evening for everyone to enjoy.

## Forest School:

We will be starting Forest School after half term, on Thursday afternoons. During Forest School the children play and explore in our nature area on the school field, exploring the environment, working in teams and creating art from natural materials - to name but a few things. This supports many areas of our curriculum.

Half of the class will go each week, with Mrs Rudd (our Year 1 teacher, who is one of our Forest School Leaders) and some parent helpers. It is vital we have at least two helpers each week so that we can run these sessions. There will be a sign up sheet on the board in the class for you to sign up, and a list of which group will be going each week.

When going to Forest School the children need to bring in old clothes, wellies and waterproofs to change into (we have lots of spare waterproofs so don't worry if not!).

## Christmas Nativity:

This year our Nativity is 'Light's, Camel, Action!' All of the children in the Infants take part, please look out for cast letters over the next few weeks to let you know which part your child will be playing and if they need any clothes towards their costume.

We ticket our Nativity, so that we can ensure we don't go over capacity in the hall. There will be a letter about this soon for you to request your tickets.

## Once Upon A Time/Let's Celebrate Topic Overview Foundation

<b>Classroom Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Shoe shop in the home corner</li> <li>✓ The Three Bears cottage</li> <li>✓ Santa's workshop</li> <li>✓ North Pole Post Office</li> </ul>	<b>Educational Visits</b>	<p>Cornerstone Theatre - Emily Brown and the Thing.</p> <p>Possible visitors in school to talk about Diwali.</p>
<b>Wow Factor Launch</b>	<p>Dressing up.</p> <p>Decorate the class for Christmas with the children (Week 5)</p>	<b>Key Texts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The Three Billy Goats Gruff</li> <li>✓ Goldilocks and the Three Bears</li> <li>✓ The Night Before Christmas</li> </ul>
<b>Outcomes /Open Day Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Christmas arts and craft</li> <li>✓ Cooking</li> <li>✓ Retelling stories</li> </ul>	<b>Home links - activities parents can do to support...</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reading together <b>daily</b>.</li> <li>✓ Talk about family celebrations - e.g. birthdays, Christmas</li> <li>✓ Find numbers in the environment (maybe on advent calendars!)</li> </ul>
<b>Communication and Language</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Listening to stories</li> <li>✓ Sharing ideas</li> <li>✓ Talking about their interests</li> <li>✓ Sharing their own experiences</li> </ul>	<b>Personal Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Talk to others about own interests</li> <li>✓ Take turns and negotiate with their peers</li> <li>✓ Show consideration for others (Link with Comic Relief)</li> </ul>
<b>Physical development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Using equipment safely. (e.g. scissors, art resources)</li> <li>✓ Cutting skills - paper snowflakes</li> <li>✓ PE activities - Ugly Duckling dance</li> <li>✓ Name writing - pencil control</li> </ul>	<b>Maths</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reciting and recognising numbers to 10, then 20</li> <li>✓ Counting sets of objects accurately, above 10</li> <li>✓ Adding two groups of objects</li> <li>✓ Comparing size - weighing parcels for Christmas</li> <li>✓ Measuring in cooking activities</li> </ul>
<b>Literacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sharing traditional stories</li> <li>✓ Daily phonics sessions - learning new letters, practising blending and segmenting skills</li> <li>✓ Writing and mark making - Christmas lists and cards</li> <li>✓ Labels for pictures</li> <li>✓ Weekly Big Write activities linked to the topic</li> </ul>	<b>Expressive art and design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Exploring different materials to create Christmas crafts</li> <li>✓ Cooking, making biscuits and cakes for Christmas</li> <li>✓ Singing Christmas songs</li> <li>✓ Learning Nativity play</li> </ul>
<b>Understanding the world</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Finding out about different celebrations and festivals- Christmas, Diwali</li> <li>✓ Christmas customs around the world</li> <li>✓ Christmas in the past</li> </ul>		