

# What is happening in Reception for the next few weeks?

9th December 2024

## Literacy



Fred Talk



We will be retelling our own version of the story 'The Gingerbread Man'. We will also be reading some stories about Christmas, including 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' and 'The Littlest Christmas Tree'. We will talk about the settings, characters and their feelings. In phonics, some of us are practising single sounds and some of us are learning special friends like th, sh and ch. We will all be practising oral blending, blending words, practising writing sounds and spelling words with the sounds we know well. We are all practising writing our first names correctly and writing some CVC words using our sounds. Some of us are writing phrases with finger spaces.

## Maths



This week we will focus on developing our comparison skills and will look carefully and use language to describe sets of objects that we can see. Adults will model the language of 'more than' and 'fewer than' to describe how many objects there are in each set. 'Fewer than' is used rather than 'less than' because the focus is on countable things. We will also look at repeating patterns with shapes and try to make our own. We will try and recognise a pattern and continue it, noticing when it is incorrect. We will also explore weighing things, and if they are heavier or lighter.

## Topic



We are continuing our topic with a focus on '**special times**'. This time of year many people celebrate Christmas. We will look at images of Christmas now and in the past and talk about what we see that is the same and different. We will also look at images of Christmas in different places in the world and talk about what we see. We will listen to and learn the Christmas Story which we will be performing in 'Our First Nativity'. We will be making a Christmas card and a 'Gingerbread Man'. We will also look at Hannukah which is a special time for Jewish people. We will listen to a story about it and make a mendiant with fruit.

## Messages

We are preparing for 'Our First Nativity' and look forward to performing to you on Tuesday 17th December at 2.00pm. Please remember to book your seats. We are also hoping to be able to film a dress rehearsal for you to watch at home and share with relatives. Please indicate this on the form.

The Christmas week is a busy week and we will be having our Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day on Wednesday 18th December.

**Our Christmas party is on Thursday 19th of December in the afternoon . We would like to ask parents to donate some party food for the kids to enjoy. We will put a list of food outside of the classroom for you to tick so we have a variety of different snacks. Kids can bring a Christmas top to change on the day if they wish - not a full set of clothes.**

The days are getting colder now so please send you child to school with a warm coat, ideally with a hood, a warm hat and gloves. These should all be named. We do outdoor learning everyday so the children will need suitable clothing for learning outside.

## How can you help at home?

The children are now grouped for phonics according to their stage of reading. Some children are finding it difficult to remember their sounds and really need your help to practise them at home. Other children know quite a lot with just a few gaps but cannot yet orally blend. These children need help to practise their Fred Talk games at home (please see the links). Other children know most of their sounds and can orally blend. These children are just starting to read words and need to practise reading the words they are sent home. All children need to keep practising their sounds and orally blending.

Please share books and read to your child every night if you can. Try and develop a love of reading that will stay with them for the rest of their lives! From this week, the children will be able to select a school book to bring home, for you to enjoy together. They should return the book each Friday so they can select a new one.

You can support your child's Maths learning by undertaking some of the suggested activities from the maths home learning. We will also sometimes send home ideas to support our topic learning.



## Our Learning

**If you have any comments, concerns or questions, please come and speak to Mrs Kalampaliki, Mrs Spiers or Ms York. We hope you all have a lovely week!**