Early Years at New Hartley First School
Nursery Parent Information Sheet
Autumn 2

Theme: Celebrations & Nursery Rhymes

<u>Dates for your diary</u>
09.11.26-13.11.26 - National Nursery Rhyme week
3.11.26 - Children in Need
20.11.26 - Non-uniform- Christmas Fair donations
Morning 8th and Afternoon 10th Dec – Christmas Songs/Nativity with Reception
16th Dec – Artventurers (AM)
16th Dec – Early Years Christmas Party – Christmas clothes – with Reception
17th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch
18th Dec – End of term

Reminder; suitable clothing for the weather, we go outside in all conditions







Nursery Rhyme Week

09th-13th November National Nursery Rhyme Week

We are taking part in the National Nursery Rhyme week;
This year the focus rhymes are;
Hickory, Dickory Dock
Doctor Foster
Pussy cat, pussy cat
Row, row, row your boat
1,2 ,3 ,4 ,5 Once I caught a fish alive



What is your favourite nursery rhyme?



Rhyming games are key to helping children with their understanding of different word sounds and the rhythm of words. This can be hugely helpful for their language skills as they build to talking in sentences and eventually reading.





Prime Areas of curriculum





Communication and Language development

This half term, we will continue to develop the children's communication and language skills by focusing on listening and attention. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to others, enjoy and discuss stories, and talk about what they have heard. Through a range of fun listening games and activities, they will build their concentration skills and learn to pay attention to more than one thing at a time. We will also continue to support children in becoming familiar with the rules, routines and expectations of Nursery, helping them to communicate confidently and engage positively with others.

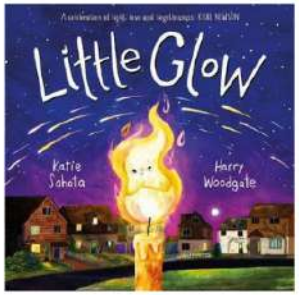
Personal, social and emotional development

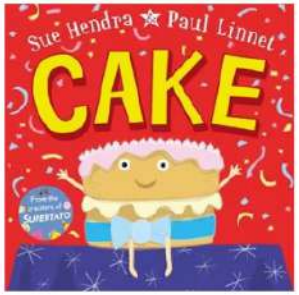
This half term, we will continue to support the children's personal, social and emotional development by encouraging them to follow Nursery rules and routines and helping them to understand why these are important. We will promote increasing independence in everyday self-care tasks, such as using the toilet, washing and drying hands thoroughly, and managing personal needs. Children will also be encouraged to make choices about their learning, selecting activities and resources independently where possible and seeking support when needed to help them achieve their goals.

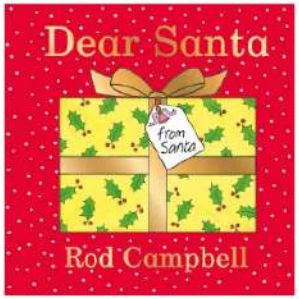
Physical Development

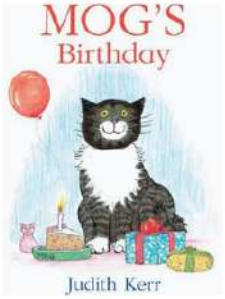
This half term, we will continue to develop the children's physical development through a range of fun and active experiences. The children will take part in our weekly sessions with the Active First coach on Fridays, helping them to build strength, balance and coordination. They will practise skills such as hopping, skipping, balancing on one leg and holding poses during games such as Musical Statues. Children will also use large-muscle movements when waving flags and streamers, painting and making marks. Alongside this, we will continue to strengthen fine motor skills through a variety of activities designed to improve hand strength, dexterity and pencil control, supporting early writing development.

Books we will share this half term











Next half term, children will continue to develop their early reading and literacy skills by exploring how print works and why it is important. They will learn that print carries meaning and can be used for different purposes, such as sharing stories, giving information and sending messages. Children will develop an understanding that English text is read from left to right and from top to bottom, while becoming familiar with the different parts of a book, including the front cover, back cover, title and pages. They will also practise page sequencing and build confidence in handling books independently, helping to establish strong foundations for reading.

Next half term, children will continue to build their mathematical understanding through daily counting, number songs and practical activities. They will develop fast recognition of quantities up to three without counting (subitising) and show numbers to five using their fingers. Children will practise counting forwards and backwards through number rhymes and songs, strengthening their understanding of number sequence. They will also develop their understanding of positional language, learning to follow and describe where objects are using words such as under, on top of, behind and next to without relying on visual prompts. These experiences will help children develop confidence in number, language and problem-solving skills.

Next half term, children will learn about the world around them by exploring different celebrations and special places that are important to themselves, their families and their friends. They will explore how people celebrate. Through stories, discussions and festival celebrations, they will begin to understand that some places hold special meaning for members of their community. Children will be encouraged to talk about what they see, hear and experience, using an increasingly wide vocabulary to describe people, objects and events.

Next half term, children will continue to develop their creativity, communication and imagination through music, storytelling, art and role play. They will learn and confidently sing a range of familiar songs and rhymes, remembering the words and actions. Including some for our Christmas celeration. They will explore a variety of materials and textures, learning how to join materials together to create their own models and artwork. Children will be inspired by the work of artists, musicians and craftspeople, broadening their creative ideas and experiences. They will also develop their early drawing skills by creating closed shapes with continuous lines and beginning to use these shapes to represent people, objects and their own ideas.