Reception at New Hartley First School

Autumn 2

Let's Celebrate!



Welcome back! We hope you've had a lovely half term holiday full of pumpkins and Halloween treats! This half term we are learning about celebrations. We are learning that people celebrate different things and this can depend on where they live, a tradition or a belief, but focusing on which celebrations are important to us.

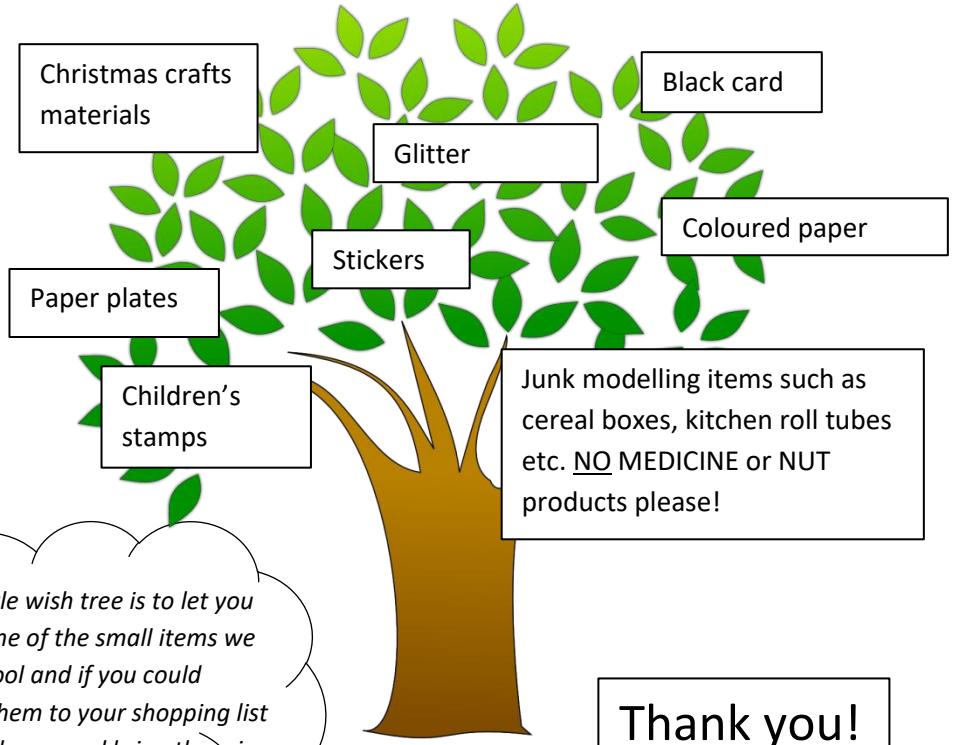
Dates to remember:

Children in Need – Friday 13th November
Non-uniform – Christmas fair donations – Friday 20th November
Christmas Songs/Nativity (with Nursery) – Tuesday 8th December *(morning)* and Thursday 10th December *(afternoon)*
WINTER FAIR – In school – Wednesday 2nd December
Early Years Christmas party – Wednesday 16th December
Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 17th December
End of half term – Friday 18th December

As the weather gets colder - remember warm winter coats, hats and gloves. All named!



Our Wish Tree



The idea of our little wish tree is to let you know at home some of the small items we use a lot of at school and if you could occasionally add them to your shopping list or collect them at home and bring them in we would be very grateful. There is no pressure to donate. Thank you.

Thank you!

Early Years Curriculum

Early Years Curriculum

In Reception the children follow the Foundation Stage Curriculum which is supported by Development Matters.
The curriculum is split into 7 areas of learning. In Nursery the children concentrate on the Prime Areas of learning and touch on the Specific Areas. In Reception we build upon the skills learnt in Nursery and the Prime Areas and begin to focus more on the Specific Areas. This is explained further in the breakdown of what we will be up to this half term.

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We will be keeping in touch over Tapestry. We hope to send little homework tasks home and show you what we are up to. Please make sure you have activated
your account, and check it regularly, if you have any problems with your account please email:
admin@nhfs.uk

Prime Area – Communication and Language

This half term in Reception, we will be exploring the difference between fiction and non-fiction books, learning how to recognise stories and information books and sharing our thoughts about what we read. We will also be developing the children's confidence when speaking in front of the whole class, encouraging them to share their ideas, listen to others and express themselves clearly. Alongside this, we will focus on developing important social skills and positive relationships, practising useful phrases such as “Please don't do that”, “Can I help you?” and “Can you help me, please?” to help us communicate kindly, support one another and resolve small disagreements.



We will continue to use Makaton signs throughout the day to support communication, including signing the days of the week, saying good morning and good afternoon, and using signs during snack time. We will also introduce and practise new signs linked to our learning topics.

Prime Area – Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term in PSED, we will be exploring how we are all unique and celebrating the ways in which we are different. We will talk about our own needs and feelings, as well as learning to recognise and show sensitivity towards the needs and feelings of others. We will discuss how everyone has different beliefs and that people may follow different religions, encouraging the children to respect and appreciate these differences. We will also focus on building confidence when experiencing new situations, supporting the children as they prepare for our Christmas performance. This experience will help develop their confidence, independence and understanding of the world around them.

Prime Area – Physical Development

PE will continue to be on Tuesday and Friday. Please wear your house-coloured T-shirt with shorts, leggings or joggers, and trainers or sand shoes. No laces, please**!**



We'll be doing PE with Miss Elliott on Tuesdays and continuing our sessions with our Active Future coach on Fridays.

Fine Motor Skills
Fine motor activities remain important. We'll keep practising these daily through activities such as:

- Dough Disco
- Threading
- Peg activities
- Loose/small parts play
- Squiggle Whilst We Wiggle
- Cutting
- Tweezers and pom-poms
- Pencil grip work

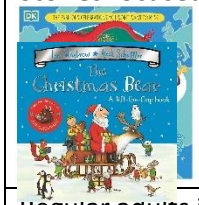
We'll also be doing some *Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle*, which helps to build our gross motor skills too.
Any fine motor activities you can do at home are a great help — thank you for your support!

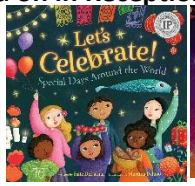
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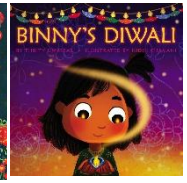


Specific Area – Literacy	Specific Area – Mathematics	Specific Area – Knowledge and Understanding of the World	Specific Area – Expressive Arts and Design
This half term in Literacy, we will continue to develop the children's early reading and writing skills through our Read Write Inc. (RWI) phonics sessions, introducing new letter sounds and beginning to blend sounds together to read simple words. We will use a book-based approach to encourage a love of reading, developing the children's listening, understanding and storytelling skills through a range of engaging texts. To support early writing and develop fine motor skills, we will take part in Dough Disco and Squiggle While You Wiggle activities. We will also enjoy our Story Voting each day, giving the children opportunities to share their opinions, make choices and develop a love of stories.	This half term in Maths, we will be following a combination of the NCETM and White Rose Maths schemes to support the development of the children's early mathematical understanding. We will be focusing on numbers 1-5, exploring how to recognise, count, represent and understand these numbers in different ways. We will also be learning about 2D shapes with four sides, exploring their properties and identifying them in the world around us. Through practical activities, games and hands-on experiences, we will encourage the children to develop their mathematical language, problem-solving skills and confidence when exploring numbers and shapes.	This half term in Understanding the World, we will be exploring different religious celebrations, including Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. We will learn about places of worship linked to these celebrations and discover how and why people celebrate in different ways. We will look at different places around the world where these celebrations take place and explore the traditions and customs associated with them. We will also begin to think about how celebrations and traditions have changed over time, learning about how long they have been celebrated and what life was like long ago. As we move into the winter season, we will go on a winter hunt to observe the changes in the natural environment, particularly how trees and plants change throughout the seasons. We will explore the question 'What is winter?' using our senses to think about what winter looks, feels and smells like. We will compare winter with autumn, identifying similarities and differences in the weather and the natural world. We will also investigate ice and freezing, exploring how water changes into ice and creating our own ice sculptures through hands-on activities.	In Expressive Arts and Design, the children will have opportunities to explore a range of creative materials and techniques to develop their imagination and artistic skills. We will create our own Diva lamps using clay as part of our learning about Diwali, as well as designing and making our own calendars to take home. As we approach Christmas, we will enjoy creating Christmas cards using fingerprinting techniques to produce our own designs. We will also be creating self-portraits, giving the children opportunities to explore their own features while developing their fine motor skills, pencil control and confidence when using different tools and materials.

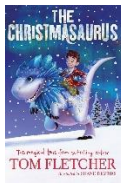
Stories focused on in Reception this half term are:



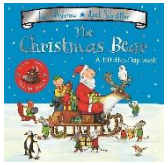


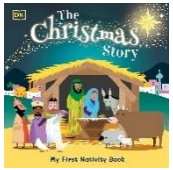












<u>Regular adults in Reception are:</u>
Miss Elliott, Mrs Thompson
<u>Other adults you might see:</u>
Mrs Nelson, Mrs Madden, Mrs Fielding, Miss Lamb, Mr Peddie, Mrs McAthey
<u>Please continue to keep check of Tapesty, lots of exciting and important things are uploaded to there and your engagement is hugely appreciated.</u>

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