

Long Mead Community Primary Foundation Unit Newsletter



11th November 2022

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome back we hope you have had a wonderful two weeks off. This term our topic is 'Celebrations and Festivals' and these are some of the things we will be covering this term:

Communication and Language

We will be sharing stories, encouraging the children to join in with familiar parts. The stories we will be focusing on include: Polar Bear, The Naughty Bus, Polar Express, The Nativity, Rama and Sita story, Mog's Christmas and Stick Man. We will focus on rhythm and rhyme, listening skills and working with a talking partner. We will also begin Helicopter storytelling, encouraging the children to make up their own stories and as a class we will be bringing them to life by acting them out.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will focus on behaviour and self-control, getting along with others and being a good friend, including using kind hands and to play games that do not involve touching others. This will involve learning to recognise and talk about our feelings, understanding how we can help others and understand the importance of sharing and taking turns. We will be learning about the school rules and values.

Physical Development

We will be learning to move in different ways, developing coordination and control. The children will continue to have PE every Monday afternoon. We will be focusing on developing the children's independence, for example getting their coats on and doing them up, putting shoes and socks on. Every morning we will be doing activities to develop fine motor control and handwriting skills.

Literacy

The children will be enjoying stories, rhymes and books to develop their literacy skills. The children in pre-school will be going on a word hunt to look at words all around us, you can help at home too by drawing your child's attention to words all around us. Point to the words as you read so your child learns that words are read from left to right. The children in reception will be continuing daily phonics and reading sessions. Reading books will continue to be sent home weekly and we encourage you to allow your child to read as often as possible to enable them to become fluent readers. Phonics will be being taught in the pre-school, they will be looking at different sounds around them, including environmental and instrumental as well as body percussion. They will also be hearing initial sounds in words.

Mathematics

We will be focusing on reciting the numbers in order, counting accurately and recognising numerals and beginning to look at the composition of numbers. We will also be describing and naming shapes, using shapes to make pictures and patterns and looking for shapes in the environment. The children will be solving simple problems using measures and practising key mathematical vocabulary.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be learning about a range of festivals including Diwali, Hanukah and Christmas. Children will be creating their own firework pictures, diva lamps, cards and making their own menorah's. The children will role-play familiar stories and retell their own stories. In music we will be using percussion instruments and building up a repertoire of familiar songs. The children will also be taking part in the Christmas nativity which involves lots of singing and acting.

Understanding of the World

We will be learning about a range of festivals and looking at how we are all different. We will be reading the story of Rama and Sita to understand the festival of Diwali, as well as the Christmas story. Forest School will take place every Monday for those who didn't take part last term - please make sure your child has the correct clothing and waterproofs.

Early Years Staff

Please note that staff are in school on the following days:

Mrs Hooper - Tuesday - Friday

Miss Webster - Monday

Nicky Wilson, Mrs Mitchell and Lois are in school all week.

Snack Time

We do provide children with a snack however you would prefer to provide a snack that is fine. Please make sure snacks are healthy 😊

We will be sending home a letter regarding Christmas events but here is the date of the Christmas nativity which will be held in the school hall **Thursday 8th December 2022, time to be confirmed** but it will be in the morning.



If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let us know, we are always happy to help.

Thank you for your support.

The Foundation Stage Team