

Reception Topic Web - Celebrations

Autumn 2 2025

Our core text this term is **Billy's Bucket** by **Kes Gray and Garry Parsons**



Our value this term is: **Generosity**

Communication and Language

This term we will be focusing on active listening and speaking in class. Children will begin to discuss their learning with peers.

Active listening

- Looking
- Hands still
- Quiet
- Active ears – responding



Speaking in a full sentence

- Volunteering to speak
- Saying words clearly
- Answering questions in several words
- Repeating back words and phrases
- Repeating back full sentences
- Speaking in a full sentence

Confidence to speak in front of peers

Activities including: Singing as a class – nursery rhymes, counting songs, Nativity songs, volunteering answers, talking to adults confidently about their work, speaking in front of a small group, standing up and speaking in front of the class – Sharing homework

Physical development:

We will be working on developing our gross motor skills ready for writing and moving around in different ways to strengthen our bodies.

Tool control –

Paint brush letter writing, playdough manipulation, pegs on a washing line, mark making – pencils, chalk, pens, developing appropriate grip for tools.

Running -

Looking where we are going, walking into space, walking to avoid others and objects, jogging into space, jogging to avoid others and objects, running into space, running to avoid others and objects

Jumping -

Jump on 2 feet, jumping with 2 feet together, jump from 1 foot to another, balance on 1 foot, hop.

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Now that the children have settled into the new routines of school we will be working on how to play cooperatively, keep safe and asking for help when we need it.

Cooperative play

Being friendly, caring about others – supporting, showing empathy, understanding feelings of ourselves and others, taking turns and sharing, playing games together, building together, roleplay together

Asking for help

Recognising you need help/support, knowing who can help, finding an appropriate person, asking for help

Keeping safe in school

Knowing what being safe is (links to our s rule), being aware of what is around them identifying risks, keeping other safe with actions, keeping safe on a digital device



Key dates:

Outdoor learning: will be every Friday unless we notify you otherwise. Please send your child dressed in their uniform but ensure that their legs are fully covered.

PE - On Tuesdays, children need to come to school already dressed in their PE kit. They will stay in their PE Kits all day.

W/C 24th November - Christmas Shopping: children will have the opportunity to visit the shop to buy a gift for an adult at home.

Thursday 4th December and Friday 5th December – Nativity performance – see communication from office for timings.

Friday 19th December – term ends at 1pm

Literacy

In phonics we will be continuing with phase 2, learning new phonemes and graphemes and introducing more digraphs.

h/b/l/f/ff/ll/ss/sh/ch/th/ng/nk

Our core text is Billy's Bucket by Kes Gray and Garry Parsons. We will use this story to write simple labels for pictures

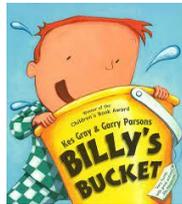
Segmenting and blending cvc words:

Oral blending 2-3 sounds, recognising graphemes from phase 2, using pictures to support blending, encouraging repetition, speeding up saying individual sounds, squeezing sounds together, blending sounds.

Hearing initial sounds, hearing final sounds, hearing middle sounds.

Writing simple labels:

Writing graphemes accurately
Writing own name
Writing simple labels.



Numeracy:

Week 1 – continuing to underline the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are altogether. We will further practise our 1:1 correspondence skill, by counting numbers at the same time as moving or tagging objects.

Week 2 – begin to understand similarities and differences when comparing amounts. Comparing the number of objects in 2 sets by matching them 1:1. Start to notice if quantities are equal.

Week 3 – begin to explore composition by focusing on the preliminary skills: the concept of 'wholes' and 'parts'. By investigating their own bodies and familiar toys they will begin to understand that whole things are often made up of smaller parts and that a whole is, therefore, bigger than its parts.

Week 4 – investigating the composition of 3, 4 and 5 e.g. seeing that 3 can be composed of 1 and 2. Consolidate their understanding of a whole being made up of smaller parts. They will begin to recognise that numbers can be made by combining parts in different ways.

Week 5 – develop understanding of the concept of cardinality – that the last number in the count tells us 'how many' things there are altogether. Begin to explore verbal counting to larger numbers. Counting together to numbers larger than 20.

Understanding the World

We will be looking at lots of different celebrations this term; where they are celebrated and why, who celebrates them and what do they do. We will look at similarities and differences between the festivals and celebrations.

Bonfire night, Remembrance, Diwali, Birthdays, Hanukkah, Advent, Christmas.

We will also spend time thinking about the seasons of the year and how the world around us changes as we go through Autumn and head towards Winter. We will use our outdoor learning time to observe the changes around us (plants and weather), learn about how animals cope when it gets colder and what we need to do differently: dress in warmer clothes.



Expressive Arts and Design

We will be spending time this term rehearsing for the Nativity. We will learn lots of songs and how to perform them to others.

We will become confident to speak in front of others.

There will be lots of opportunity throughout the term to show creativity through art linked to the different celebrations.

Firework painting, poppy making, rangoli patterns, leaf collages, calendar making.

