

Nursery Newsletter November 2024  
Exciting Celebrations, Light and Dark

Welcome back after the half term break. We hope you all had a good rest and are ready for the busy term ahead.

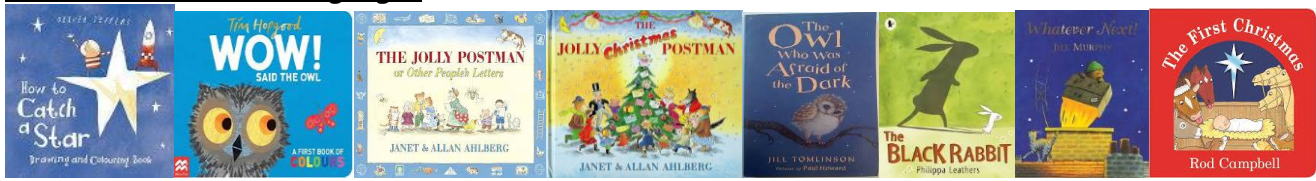
This half term our theme is, **Patterns, Light, Dark and World Celebrations**

**PSED**

We will be thinking about how people celebrate different festivals and occasions across the world including Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas.

We will continue to be thinking about our emotions and how we can deal with them in appropriate ways. We will also be thinking about the feelings of other children and being aware that our actions can have consequences. We will be creating time to think about having healthy minds and the need for moments of quiet and calm during the day.

**Communication and Language.**



The stories we will be focusing on this half term are, *Wow said the Owl*, *The Jolly Postman*, *The Jolly Christmas Postman*, *Moon*, *The Black Rabbit*, *What Ever Next*, *The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark*, our own story of *We're Going on a Star Hunt* and *The First Christmas*

We will be trying to sequence the stories. Using story maps to retell the stories in our own words and developing our vocabulary and story telling language.

There will be lots of opportunities for the children to talk about different celebrations from around the world.

**Physical Development**

We will continue to focus on developing their fine motor skills, so they hold their pens, pencils and paint brushes in a correct manner to aid good fluent handwriting. The children will practise these skills with paint brushes, large pens on large paper, and in the sand. We will also be developing cutting skills through a variety of activities involving scissors. We will be going into the hall each week to develop the skills of running, hopping, skipping, galloping and a variety of ball skills.



This half term we are very lucky to be welcoming Mrs Anderson into the nursery to teach yoga each week. This will take place every Monday morning.

**Literacy**

We will be focussing on the early stages of phonics development encouraging the children to hear the sounds in words, segmenting and blending orally. Being able to hear rhymes and create a rhyming string. We will be encouraging lots of emergent writing within our role play areas. Writing cards and letters to their friends in nursery and cards for family at home, writing lists, party lists, shopping lists and labels.

**Mathematics**

This half term in maths we will be looking at patterns and repeating patterns. Can the children notice the pattern, can they continue a repeating pattern and can they fix the pattern? We will be consolidating their recognition and understanding of numbers to 5. We will make comparisons between objects relating to size. We will be comparing sizes using gestures and language: 'bigger/little/small'. We will be talking about and exploring 2D shapes using informal and mathematical language, sides, corners, straight, flat

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### Understanding the World.

This half term our focus will be on light and dark and the different light sources we see. Noticing things that give us light. We will be investigating shadows and how they are made. Having fun with shadow puppetry. Some of the vocabulary we will be developing is opaque, translucent, transparent, see through not see through. light, dark, moonlight sunlight. etc. We will be looking at planets and stars as we focus on our story "How to Catch a Star."

### Expressive Art and Design

The children will be exploring different art techniques of drawing and painting. We will provide opportunities to draw and sketch. The children will have plenty of opportunities for box modelling and construction activities. We will be encouraging them to make different rockets and moon buggies, Santa's sleigh etc. We will be using water colours to create night time pictures. The children will have lots of opportunities to work in different role play areas. Home corner, decorated for celebrations. Role play post office for Christmas posting, Role play moon rocket exploration.

**Please help us to keep up with the children's creative endeavours by collecting small boxes, corks, yogurt pots, sparkly paper, shiny paper, old cards, and bringing them into school. Thank you.**

Thank you for your patience and support as we continue to improve and enhance our outside area after the damage to our sheds in the storm.

#### Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 13th November

Stay and Play 9-10am

Thursday 15th November

Nursery Bun Sale for Children in Need

Friday 16th November

Children in Need day.

Wednesday 27th November

Nursery and Reception Open Morning

Monday 2nd December

Visit to Stephen Smiths in Search of a Star.

Saturday 7th December

Christmas Fair

Monday 16th December 2pm

Whole School Nativity at All Saints Church Otley

Tuesday 17th December 1.15pm

Nursery and Reception Christmas Party

Wednesday 18th December 10.30am

Nursery Nativity, Mince Pie and Drink Celebration

Friday 20th December

School closes for Christmas Break

#### Whole School Nativity.

The Nursery Children will be participating in the Whole School Christmas Nativity by singing "Away in a Manger". We would love them to be dressed in white( white shirt/t-shirt/light coloured trousers/ leggings/skirts/ dresses) and we will provide tinsel halos.



#### Nursery and Reception Christmas Party



We would like all the children to join us at the Nursery Christmas Party and the Nursery Nativity even if the children do not attend Nursery on a Tuesday Afternoon, or a Wednesday Morning. We will be sending out a Christmas Activity Google Form to fill in with options on how to deal with the day.



Best wishes.

The Nursery Team