

Let's Celebrate!



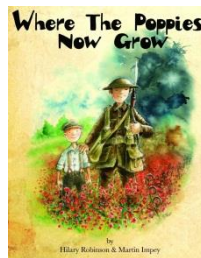
Dear Parents,


Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely half term. This term we will be spending time looking at how we celebrate different winter festivals such as Diwali, November 5th (Bonfire Night), Remembrance and Christmas. We will be remembering times when we have celebrated events and we will be talking about the past, including Remembrance.

The boxes below explain briefly the areas we will be looking at and some of the work we will be doing, which will be incorporated through play and teacher focused activities.

As part of this topic, we will begin to look at 'Light and Dark', non-fiction books and will be writing letters, lists and invitations.

Some of the texts we will be looking at are:



<p><u>Understanding of the World</u> Light and Dark Different celebrations such as Diwali and Christmas</p>	<p><u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u> Understanding differences. Safety and rules in different situations Working together</p>	<p><u>Expressive Art & Design</u> Diwali art Christmas craft Cards & Decorations</p>
<p><u>Communication and Language</u> Listening and following instructions Thinking and talking about feelings Understanding and sequencing stories and events</p>		<p><u>Physical Development</u> Fine motor skills - Holding pencils correctly, threading, Spatial awareness when moving Letter formations</p>
<p><u>Religious Education</u> What is a prayer? What is assembly? What is Christmas about?</p>	<p><u>Mathematics</u> Counting skills & recognising numbers Using mathematical vocabulary Understanding 'more' and 'less'</p>	<p><u>Literacy</u> Letters and sounds, matching the written letter with the sound it makes. Writing captions, lists and letters. Exploring non-fiction books</p>

Home Learning

I would like to thank you all for your effort with last term's home learning tasks including reading with your children. The children have already made great progress with learning sounds and every read will help this to become more secure.

Reading	<p>Please read with your child regularly, even if it is just for 5 minutes.</p> <p>It is really important that the children bring their book bags, their reading record and their reading book into school every day.</p> <p>When reading with your child please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by signing and dating in the comments book, or you may like to add a positive or helpful comment in the reading diary. We will change their books when appropriate.</p> <p>Please keep practicing the sounds and word cards in your child's reading file. This will help your child to begin to read with more fluency.</p>
Ask Me About	<p>At points during the term, the children will bring home an 'Ask me About' page. This will have bullet points with some of the key activities that we have done. Please take some time to talk to the children about these points and jot down their responses on the sheet. There will also be a space for you to comment on what you have done at home.</p>

Key questions to ask your child at home:

- **What do we celebrate?**
- **Why does the world get dark?**
- **Who do we remember?**

Useful Websites

www.ictgames.co.uk and www.topmarks.co.uk for Literacy and Maths games.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk Phase 2 and 3 games, blending sounds and words.

Quick Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle and their book bag each day**.
- Can the children please always have a coat in school particularly as the British weather is unpredictable.
- Our PE days are Thursday and Friday but PE kits should be in all week.
- **Welly Boots** - Please can all children have a set of wellies in school at all times, this is so we can use the field and outside areas when it is wet and muddy. All in one waterproof suits are useful too.

Learning Journeys

Thank you to all who came and celebrated the children's learning at the end of Term 1 and enjoyed a bowl of super pumpkin soup. As part of the EYFS it is really important for parents to see and contribute to the children's learning journeys.

To encourage this, we will be inviting parents into the classroom on the following dates to come and share the children's learning journey books and add in any comments or learning they have done at home, using our 'WOW slips. Mrs Whythe will invite you to pop in first thing in the morning when the gates open.

- Friday 26th November 8.40-8.55am

- Friday 10th December 8.40-8.55am

We hope you all have lovely second term supporting the children in their learning and can see how much they have learnt already. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if necessary.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Whythe, Mrs Smith and Mrs Spiller

