



**Autumn Term**

**All About Me/Autumn/Night time/Diwali/Christmas**

This term will be about getting to know each other and our new environment. The children will familiarise themselves with their new class and the routines. We will be finding out about each other’s families and will bring in a photograph to talk about. We will talk about what we can do and share this with our friends. We will also talk about what we did when we were babies and what we can do now.

We will notice the changes that take place during autumn and will find out about harvest time. ‘Pumpkin Soup’ by Helen Cooper will be a stimulus for many activities. These will include making pumpkin soup and retelling the story in our role play area. We will find out about ‘Night time’ and will use stories such as ‘Owl Babies’ and ‘Whatever Next’ to help to develop the children’s imagination. During Diwali we will discover what happens during the celebration and hear a special story. We will also make some Indian snacks when we are visited by a member of staff from the Tesco Eat Happy project. We will begin daily ‘Maths Meet Sessions’ in which children work in small groups with their friends to complete maths activities. Daily phonics teaching will begin before half term and the children will take home a phonics key-ring containing the sounds that they have learnt each week. Guided reading sessions will also begin and the children will take home their book to share. We will have a Welcome meeting and ‘Stay and Play’ session for parents in the first few weeks of term and in the second half term we will have a Reading workshop and invite parents into our classrooms to take part in some reading activities. During December we will visit St. Catherine’s Church and we will find out about the Christmas Story. We will also perform our Nativity play for the school and our parents and carers.

<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b>	<b>Physical Development</b>	<b>Communication and Language</b>	<b>Literacy</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Understanding the World</b>	<b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>
<p>We will introduce the children to Mersey Bear and his rules which keep us happy and safe when we are in school. Our Mersey Park values; Be Nice, Work Hard and Never Give up will also be introduced to the children. We will explore how we make new friendships and how we work together. We will celebrate our differences. We will begin ‘Circle Time’ sessions in which we play a variety of cooperation games. We will use the SEAL materials to reinforce our values, exploring friendships, kindness, feelings and new beginnings.</p>	<p>We will practise putting on our coats and outdoor clothing independently. We will begin to explore how we can keep ourselves healthy, for example we will explore how we wash our hands thoroughly. We will also find out about the benefits of healthy food and exercise and how to keep our teeth healthy. We will learn to use space, to travel in different ways. We will take part in lots of different fine motor activities to help to develop an effective pencil grip.</p>	<p>Throughout this term we will be developing the children’s listening skills, encouraging them to follow simple instructions. The children will join in with repeated refrains and predict events. They will also begin to develop breadth of language e.g. describing autumnal objects, finding out about Diwali. They will begin to answer questions e.g. when discussing what our class mascot did with children at home.</p>	<p>We will be teaching the children to begin to recognise and write their names. During our daily Phonics sessions the children will be learning oral blending and segmenting. They will also learn sounds and match each sound to an action/song (Jolly phonics). Children will begin to blend sounds to make v.c. and c.v.c. words. Guided Reading sessions will develop the children’s book handling skills. Children will read a range of books and will begin to develop their understanding of words/letters.</p>	<p>During our Daily ‘Maths Meet’ sessions children will begin to learn the days of the week and begin to develop their language relating to time. They will also be encouraged to count with accuracy, representing numbers with their fingers marks or pictures and numerals. Children will learn to recognise numerals and begin to recognise number order, including noticing which number is missing from a number track. Children will also have the opportunity to explore pattern shapes, recognising and talking about shapes, using the correct names for them. Children will be encouraged to begin to estimate and will be introduced to some of the language of measure.</p>	<p>Children will learn about harvest, talking about some of the crops that farmers grow and harvest. The children will plant spring bulbs and observe the changes. We will make pumpkin soup and observe what happens to some of the ingredients when we cook them. We will make divas from salt dough and talk about the change in state of the dough. We will talk about nocturnal animals and people who work at night.</p>	<p>Children will explore colour and mix colours, for example mixing skin tones for a self portrait. They will develop their drawing skills e.g. family members. We will be enjoying learning new songs and rhymes. The children will be using their imagination in our role play area including retelling the story ‘Whatever Next’. They will join in with Indian dancing during our Diwali week. Children will also use paint for printing and make collages.</p>