



Through our Early Years Curriculum children will experience a balance of Adult-led and Child initiated activities. Our carefully planned Adult-led activities introduce the children to new ideas, providing opportunities to develop their skills and ensure that they experience all areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). We also ensure our children have the opportunity to explore their own ideas, play with resources and use their imagination and creativity enabling them to take ownership of their learning and be able to apply it in different situations.

### 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 routines. We will be finding out about each other's families and will bring in a photograph to talk about, encouraging the children to share their memories of when they were younger, including toys they played with. We will notice the changes that take place during Autumn and will find out about harvest time, comparing ways of harvesting crops now and how they were harvested in the past. We will also help the children to develop an understanding that some food grows in other countries and is transported to us. We will make a healthy Autumn crumble using apples and blackberries and take home the recipe to share with our grown-ups. '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 'Peace at Last' and 'Whatever Next' to help to develop the children's imagination. Linked to these stories we will talk about the moon and find out about Neil Armstrong. During Diwali we will discover what happens during the celebration and hear a special story. We will begin teaching daily phonics and reading practice sessions following the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised Programme. Each week children will take home a phonics key-ring containing the sounds they have learnt and a book which they have been sharing with their teacher during reading practice sessions. To develop a love of books the children will also have a daily opportunity to take home a high quality children's story book to share with their family. We will hold a Welcome meeting for parents in the first few weeks of term and also a Reading and Phonics Information session. During December we will visit St. Catherine's Church and we will find out about the Christmas Story. Through stories such as; 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' and 'Christmas in Exeter Street' we will find out more about Christmas in the past. We will also perform our Nativity play for the school and our parents and carers. Through our topics we will be looking at a range of significant people, which will include; Trishe Cooke (author), Nathan Bryon (author), Ainsley Harriet (chef), Bob Marley (musician-link to family topic), Vincent Van Gogh, Tommy Hollenstein (artist), Neil Armstrong (astronaut), Charlie Dimmock (gardener).

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Communication and Language	Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
<p>We will make time to get to know each child and their family. We will also find out about children's individual interests.</p> <p>Children will be introduced 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.</p> <p>We will explore how we make new friendships and how we work together, sharing and co-operating with our friends and other peers.</p> <p>We will encourage positive behaviour and teach the children how to express their feelings if they feel hurt or upset.</p>	<p>Through our carefully planned linked provision activities each morning we will offer children activities to develop and refine their small motor skills.</p> <p>In our outdoor environment we will provide open-ended materials such as planks, blocks and crates to encourage practise of physical skills like lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling, constructing, stacking and climbing.</p> <p>During our 'Night-time' topic we will talk to the children about the importance of sleep and good sleep routines.</p> <p>At lunch times we will begin to teach the children how to eat with good table manners and encourage them to use cutlery appropriately.</p> <p>We will encourage the children to become increasingly independent with their personal hygiene.</p>	<p>We will introduce the children to lots of new vocabulary linked to our topics; Autumn, Night-time and Christmas. We will also talk about new vocabulary we come across through our shared reading and reading practice sessions. We will introduce the children to our word wall and word box where we put our newly learned words. We will constantly review these words in different contexts. We will encourage the children to share their ideas using well-formed sentences. Lots of opportunities will be provided to share good quality children's literature through storytime. The children will also have daily opportunities to take a book home to share with their family.</p>	<p>We will begin to teach children to read sounds and blend them into words through daily phonics and reading practice sessions. Towards the end of the Autumn term we will teach the children that some letter groups represent one sound and practise reading words containing them. We will teach the children phase 2 tricky words and talk about which part of them makes them tricky to read. We will use the formation phrases from the Little Wandle Phonics Programme to teach the children how to form capital and lower-case letters correctly. We will provide lots of opportunities for the children to develop their ability to spell words, for example through writing lists, speech bubbles and messages.</p>	<p>We will provide lots of opportunities for the children to count objects, actions and sounds, developing their ability to match one number name to each. We will play games and sing songs and rhymes that involve counting. We will provide collections of autumnal objects for the children to compare, teaching them to use the correct vocabulary: 'more than', 'less than', 'fewer' and 'the same as'. We will teach the children to subitise small quantities and put objects into 5 frames to support this. We will teach the children that numbers can be represented with our fingers, marks and also with pictures and numerals. We will encourage the children to continue, copy and create repeating patterns.</p>	<p>Children will be encouraged to talk about members of their immediate family and will be invited to bring photographs of their family into school to talk about. We will share books which develop the children's awareness of different families and how people change over time.</p> <p>We will visit St. Catherine's church and talk about its purpose as a place of worship and for the local community.</p> <p>When we find out about Diwali We will encourage the children to understand that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. Harvest time will provide an opportunity for the children to find out more about the natural world. We will talk about how crops grow and how they are harvested now and how this has changed from the past</p>	<p>Children will have opportunities to explore and mix colours. They will create skin tones for a self-portrait and mix red and yellow to make orange, to paint a pumpkin.</p> <p>Through enhancements in our role play and small world areas which link to stories which have been shared, children will develop storylines in their play. We will be enjoying learning new songs and rhymes.</p> <p>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>