



# Welcome to Reception



This half term, our topic is: **Fantastic Festivals**

If you need to speak to the class teacher please email us at [reception@wesfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:reception@wesfield.staffs.sch.uk)

Here is some information on how we will support the children through the 7 areas of learning:



## Communication and Language.



We will be exploring questioning to find out more and extend our learning. We will listen carefully to a variety of stories and use story language or our own words to describe and retell in detail.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will take part in Children in Need Day so children can understand the concept and introduce the children to the loveable Pudsey Bear!

We will explore kindness and continue to use kindness vouchers.

## Physical Development

*PE sessions will be every Wednesday morning and Forest School will be every Monday afternoon. Please send your child into school wearing appropriate clothing and footwear.*

We will listen to different types of music and express our feelings through movement and dance, including putting sequences of movement together. We will also explore lots of festive music in the lead up to Christmas.

In the classroom, we will continue to explore activities to strengthen and refine our fine motor muscles to support our writing.

## Literacy



Each day we will promote a love of reading as we share stories and books as a whole class during story time. Our focus texts will be: 'Sparks in the Sky', 'Jolly Christmas Postman', 'Rama and Sita' and 'Stick Man'. We will be developing our 'Talk4Writing' skills through lots of story telling, retelling and role-play. We will be creating story maps to help us remember the sequence of a story and use our phonics skills to help us to write.

In readiness for super writing, we will develop and strengthen our fine motor skills at our 'Funky Fingers' station and playdough area.

In Phonics lessons we will continue to learn grapheme, phoneme correspondence, focusing on: ff, ll, ss, j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng and nk. We will also practise teacher-led blending and oral blending to read words.

## Maths



In Maths this half term, we will be making links with stories such as, 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' to help understand composition of numbers 1,2,3.

'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' will also be a focus to help understand spatial awareness and positional language. This will include using positional language through modelling and practising every day during tidy up time!

We will continue to explore circles and triangles and go on shape hunts and continue to practise writing and recognising numbers to 10.

## Understanding The World

To support our understanding of the world around us, this half term we will:

- Learn about the traditions of Diwali and Christmas, including a trip to West Midland Safari Park to see Father Christmas!
- Talk about our own celebrations at home and family traditions.
- Work together to solve problems and make predictions in experiments.



## Expressive Arts and Design

Let's explore a range of art techniques as we create firework pictures, Rangoli patterns for Diwali and a range of Christmas crafts.

We will also be busy practising singing, dancing and performing for our school Nativity, 'A King is Born'.



# HOME LEARNING

We would be so excited to see any writing, maths and creative activities you have been doing at home. If you would like to explore our 'Fantastic Festival' topic here are some ideas (but please feel free to use your own ideas too):



Design and make a  
Stick Man.



Write a letter to  
Santa—use your sound  
cards or mats to help  
you sound out and  
write the words.



Draw a shape picture  
of a Snowman—can  
you use a circle,  
triangle, rectangle and  
a square?



Use different technology  
to take  
photographs of a  
celebration.



Design some Christmas  
wrapping paper—can  
you use a repeating  
pattern?



Write a shopping list for  
things you need for a  
party.