



Cherry Class

What we are learning about in Autumn Term 2025

We will be covering the following themes: 'Marvellous Me!' 'Autumn Trees' 'Animals in Winter' and 'Let's Celebrate!'

Communication and language:

- In the first few weeks, the children will be learning to listen in a group, respond by showing thumbs up and waiting their turn to talk in the group. They will be learning to follow instructions one step at a time
- The stories we will teach are related to the above themes and will encourage the children to listen and respond in retellings and discussions.

Personal, social and emotional development:

- To begin with, the children will be learning the classroom and school rules and discussing new beginnings. They will be encouraged to think and talk about themselves and the similarities and differences between each other. There will be many opportunities to start to make new relationship and learn how to get along with each other.

Physical development:

- Gross motor skills – We have a new programme of PE, 'Get Set 4 PE' and we are going to work on sharing the same space safely, listening to instructions, in the introduction to PE, Fundamental skills Unit 1 and Dance Unit 1. In addition, Little Gems will do activities in 'Squiggle, Whilst you Wiggle' and 'Dough Disco'
- Fine motor skills – We will be developing pencil grasp through colouring, playdough and construction. Handwriting lessons will provide opportunities to practise the pre-cursive style of writing.

Literacy:

- The children will be given reading books and asked to practise them at home, (Reception, at least 3x per week). When children are fluent with the book they have, they will be given a new book. Both Little Gems and Reception will bring a library book home each week
- We will also look at some new stories which will be a focus for developing early writing skills, alongside Phase 1 and 2 Phonics. We will be looking at the sequence of events in stories and story mapping.



Mathematics:

- In Maths, the children will be learning to count out loud, recognise numbers on a number line and join in with number songs. Reception Maths lessons we will be working on Number recognition to 5, counting skills and looking at the composition of small numbers. Little Gems will be matching, sorting and counting objects.

Understanding the world:

- We will be discussing family members and ourselves, talking about places the children have been with their families. We will look at what we could do when we were 1, 2, 3 and 4 yrs old. We will be navigating around our classroom and outdoor areas. We will have fun doing treasure hunts to familiarise children with our immediate environment. We will be enjoying exploring the school grounds and leading the children on an Autumn nature trail. We will be asking children to share their experiences of events we have been to/are going to eg Halloween, Bonfire Night. We will learn about animals that hibernate and the meaning of Remembrance Day. We will be discussing family traditions as we prepare for Christmas. Our Spanish lessons will include vocabulary for Nursery rhymes, Under the Sea, The Circus and we will recap Greetings and Numbers.

Expressive arts and design:

- The children will be learning to draw themselves using different materials – crayons, pencils, pens. They will have many opportunities to build simple models with construction materials/resources, using their own ideas. They will be using different tools to create a dotty circle based on 'The Dot' story book. We will have a look at artwork by Kandinsky and try to use similar techniques/patterns. The children will be colour mixing paints to create autumn trees and later, snowy pictures. They will explore clay to create a hedgehog. There will be poppy themed activities, as well as Christmas cards and decorations to make. The children will make use of story maps, props, puppets & story bags to encourage them to retell, invent and adapt stories. Our music lessons will introduce children to new songs and moving in time to the music.

RE

- Christianity will be our first theme of the year. We will explore the following two questions: Why is the word God so important to Christians? Why do Christians perform Nativity plays at Christmas?

In Early Years, as we progress through the year, we may divert from the above occasionally, if we decide to use the children's interests to explore learning opportunities.

Mrs D Thombs