St. Andrew's CofE Primary Academy

Term: Autumn 2 **Class:** Hedgehogs - Reception **Teachers:** Mrs Gilfillan & Mr Band

Physical Development:
This term, children will have PE on Mondays and Thursdays, taught by Mrs Gilfillan. They will continue developing the fundamental movement skills that underpin all areas of physical education, including balancing, running, jumping, throwing and catching. Through a range of games and activities, children will build their confidence, coordination and teamwork skills.
Children also have many opportunities to develop their gross motor skills within the outdoor learning environment. Activities such as building with large construction equipment, scooping, pouring and transporting materials help to strengthen their muscles and improve coordination.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development:
This term, our key texts have been carefully chosen to help children develop an awareness of others and gain an understanding of different celebrations and why they are important to people.

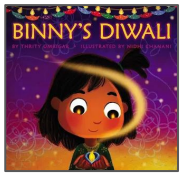
The learning environment will reflect our celebration theme, with activities designed to encourage exploration, creativity and discussion. The role-play area will be a home environment where children can act out a variety of special occasions and celebrations. They will also have opportunities to create invitations, write messages and engage in imaginative play linked to the events they are exploring.

Communication & Language:
We will continue practising familiar rhymes while learning new songs and poems, helping to develop confidence, memory and listening skills. As we move through the term, we will also begin preparing for our Nativity performance, giving children opportunities to learn and perform songs, actions and simple dances together.
Sharing stories remains an important part of every day in Reception. Children listen to a range of high-quality texts as a whole class, in small groups and individually. Through discussion, they are encouraged to talk about key events, retell parts of stories, explore characters' thoughts and feelings, and make predictions about what might happen next.

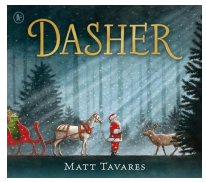
Key Texts:

- The Quiet Little Firework
- Binny's Diwali
- The Scarecrows' Wedding
- Happy Birthday Winnie
- Mince Spies
- Dasher
- The Polar Express
- The Nativity Story

Let's Celebrate!







Literacy Development:
The children have now been introduced to the first set of single letter sounds and are beginning to use these to read and blend simple words. Many children are already confidently recognising and using a wide range of sounds.

This term, children will continue learning new sounds and develop their blending skills so that they can read an increasing number of words independently. Alongside this, we will practise applying these skills in our writing. Children will use 'Fred Fingers' and 'Fred Talk' to segment words into sounds before writing them. They will have opportunities to write about stories, experiences and familiar texts, helping them develop confidence in both reading and writing.

Please continue to practise their speed sounds regularly. Once they are ready to progress, children will also bring home blending books and ditties to support their early reading development.

Mathematics:
Over the next six weeks, children will develop their understanding of number through a range of practical, hands-on activities, games, stories, songs and rhymes. They will explore counting, recognising and representing numbers, comparing quantities and explaining their mathematical thinking. Children will build confidence with numbers through active learning experiences, helping them develop the strong foundations needed for future learning in mathematics.

Understanding the World:
The children learn about a range of celebrations and special events that are important to people in our country and around the world. Through stories, discussions, role play and creative activities, they explore why these occasions are meaningful and how they are celebrated. The children learn that people may have different beliefs, traditions and ways of celebrating, while also recognising similarities between communities. They will explore a variety of celebrations, including weddings, birthdays, Diwali and Thanksgiving.

Expressive Arts & Design:
This term, children will enjoy a range of creative activities linked to celebrations, festivals and Christmas. They will explore different materials, techniques and tools through crafting, designing and making, developing their creativity and fine motor skills.
The children will also explore a variety of new songs and perform them as part of the Nativity production. They will practise copying simple rhythmic patterns, sculpt using playdough and enjoy a wide range of Christmas craft activities.