Key Books

Key Experiences

- Continuing to settle into Elm Class—making friends, feeling safe and happy.
- Enjoying traditional nursery rhymes and songs that are special to us.
- Adding to our class learning journal and sharing six focus stories.
- Going on an autumn walk and arranging visits to the local library.
- Learning about Remembrance Day, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas.

Key vocabulary

- Naming simple feelings and emotions.
- Using positive behaviour language such as "good listening" and "good sitting."
- Developing vocabulary by speaking in longer, meaningful sentences.
- Hearing new words through stories, rhymes and playful interactions.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Continuing to build a secure relationship with their key person and playing confidently with peers.
- Sharing weekly stories and rhymes at home through Class Dojo.
- Following simple class rules, including British values such as sitting to eat and saying "please" and "thank you."
- Understanding non-negotiable safety rules, such as not opening doors or gates without an adult or going outside without a coat.
- Beginning to manage feelings with adult support, recognising their own emotions and the feelings of others.
- Making independent play choices and trying new experiences with enthusiasm.
- Parents and key people working together to support children who are ready to begin independent toilet training.

2 Plus

Autumn Term 2

Our topic is:

Nursery Rhymes

Mini themes:

Autumn
Nativity
Transition
Celebrations
(Revisit Diwali, Bonfire night and Christmas)

Mathematics

- Exploring numbers 1–5 in play and everyday routines.
- Using number rhymes to develop early number awareness.
- Completing simple puzzles and constructing with resources, practising persistence when things don't work the first time.
- Sorting objects by size, shape, colour or family group.

Communication & Language

- Following simple instructions within daily routines.
- Developing listening and attention through play, small-group activities and active games.
- Responding respectfully to adults' requests.
- Enjoying stories, songs and rhymes without disrupting others.
- Building vocabulary through experiences in play and discussions about what is happening next.

Understanding the World

- Sharing home experiences and celebrations with friends.
- Beginning to make sense of their own life story and family history using photos and familiar objects.
- Using small-world play to talk about similarities and differences between people, animals and minibeasts (e.g., body parts, where they live, languages spoken).
- Exploring natural materials found on autumn walks and around the nursery setting.
- Enjoying traditional and home-language nursery rhymes.
- Using fiction, non-fiction and simple technology to find out about people, places, animals and celebrations around the world.

Physical Development

- Helping with personal care routines such as dressing, undressing, toileting and handwashing.
- Developing whole-body movements through active songs, rhymes, running, kicking, catching and mark-making.
- Strengthening fine-motor skills and hand-eye coordination through sensory and malleable play.
- Beginning to use scissors safely to make small snips.
- Using “walking inside” and “running outside” language consistently throughout sessions.

Literacy

- Saying some words from favourite stories and rhymes, copying actions and gestures.
- Singing songs and rhymes independently during play.
- Exploring nursery rhymes in their home languages.
- Using writing tools freely and giving meaning to their marks (e.g., “That is a spider”).
- Threading fruits and cotton reels and talking about related topics, such as spiders in rhymes.

Expressive Arts & Design

- Using a range of materials and resources for creative play, including props such as spiders and spouts from nursery rhymes.
- Exploring the home corner to act out real-life experiences and emotions.
- Mixing different materials such as sand, water, paint and foam.
- Building and balancing with blocks to explore cause and effect, developing resilience when structures fall down.

How you can help at home

Read lots of stories

Sing songs and rhymes

Helping your child to develop hand eye coordination through a range of fun activities at home.

We will post more information to support you! With these on Class Dojo throughout the half-term.

Class Dojo

Please make sure you check Class Dojo regularly for updates and information.