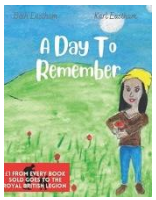
What are we learning?

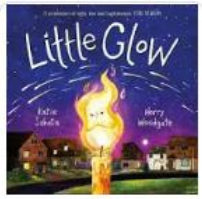
Some Key Themes and books

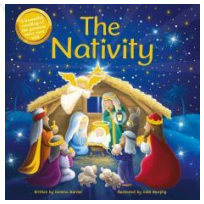
Diwali Remembrance Hanukkah Celebrations Christmas











Class Dojo:

We would love to hear about the wonderful things that you and your child are learning about at home, so please feel free to upload pictures onto Class Dojo which we can share in school.

Have you celebrated a birthday, wedding, christening or other family celebration recently?

Please send your celebration photos to school – Family gatherings, Halloween, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Christmas etc.

Personal Social & Emotional Development

Valuing Differences

- I'm special, you're special
- Same and different
- Same and different families
- Same and different homes
- I am caring
- I am a friend

Mindfulness

We will continue to teach the children to self-regulate and recognise their emotions.

Communication and language

We will learn to describe events in detail, use social phrases like 'good morning, how are you? Listen and talk about stories, songs and rhymes. Explore Non-fiction books and learn new vocabulary. The children will be encouraged to contribute to story times, retell familiar stories, and share things that we know or have learnt. We may record our stories on an iPad. Use small world and role play resources to retell familiar stories.

Physical Development

PE- Monday and WEdnesday

We will develop our overall body strength, coordination, balance and agility supporting our fine motor skills so that we can use paintbrushes, pencils and scissors.

In PE the children will explore and develop movements through PE games and Gymnastics. We will strengthen our fine motor skills ready for handwriting through our Squiggle

Celebrations through the Seasons!

Reception (Maple Class) Autumn Term 2 2026

Key vocabulary -

Celebrate/family/festival/lights/ food / party / love / fireworks / presents / decorations / music / gathering/ special / traditions

Weddings/Birthdays

Diwali

Bonfire Night

Remembrance Day

Hanukkah

Christmas

Mathematics

We will start by building on the children's knowledge of numbers: 1, 2, 3 by representation, comparing and composition. We will introduce the children to the idea that numbers are made up of smaller numbers. We will then focus on the numbers 4 & 5. We will spend time exploring circles and triangles with the children before moving on to look at four sided shapes (squares and rectangles). The children will have the opportunity to combine shapes to create arrangements and pictures. We will also develop the children's spatial awareness through the use of positional language. We will end the half term by introducing the concept of time by focusing on 'day and night.'

Understanding the World

We will be having a big focus on the things that make us unique and will do this through the ways in which people celebrate special events in different ways. We will be finding out about different celebrations such as birthdays, bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas, recognising similarities and differences. We will talk about characters from the past as well as ourselves as babies. We will recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.

Our core texts will enable the children to hear stories linked to common celebrations, including the Christmas Story. They will share their own experiences and listen to others. We will continue to look at our environment and making observations about autumn/winter, celebrations and change.

Whilst You Wiggle, Dough disco and Wake up Shake up sessions. The children will also practise scissor skills through a range of cutting activities.		**Religious Education (Incarnation)** What happens at Christmas, and why? Why do Christians perform Nativity plays at Christmas**?**
Literacy We will continue to learn our Phase 2 sounds (phonemes) and blend these into words so that we can read. We will use these sounds to spell simple words, and we will learn to write our name and words using the correct letter formation. The children will continue to take part in phonics every day, reading simple words and phrases. We ask that the children regularly share our books at home. As part of our literacy learning and linked to the theme of 'Let's Celebrate,' we will continue to introduce the children to a number of core texts. Our aim is that the children will become familiar with these texts and link their learning to these wonderful stories. Some of our writing activities this term will include writing lists, labels, cards and simple phases, creating a menu for a birthday party and writing a letter to Santa!		**Expressive Arts and Design** We will be encouraging the children to refine and repeat techniques using different media and materials. They will be creating firework art, Poppy patterns and Christmas crafts. We will also look at the artwork of other artists and use this to inspire our own creations. We will encourage the children to make links between the art they produce and the books that we are reading in class. The children will also have the opportunity to take on roles that are familiar to them in the home corner-role play. They will also be able to re-enact the stories that we read as they become more familiar with the characters and events in each of the books. We will also enhance the role-play areas; linking them to the various celebrations! Children will be taught a wide range of rhymes and songs throughout the half term and can explore musical instruments. We will use our acting skills to retell the Nativity story.