Reception Autumn 2 2026

Walkley Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'

Topic: Great British Adventure

The Big Picture

For this topic, we will be exploring the changes from Autumn into Winter. We will investigate how pumpkins and leaves decompose and think about the features of Winter. We will learn about which animals prepare to hibernate over winter and research British woodland animals using non-fiction texts. We will compare toys from the past to toys we have today as we learn about the religion of Christianity and the celebration of Christmas. We will also be making musical shakers in D.T to use in our performance of the Nativity.

Key Information and Dates

PE: This term we will be doing indoor P.E in the school hall.



Wednesday 11th November- Pantomime Experience

Friday 13th November- Children in Need

Monday 16th November- Odd Sock Day

Friday 27th November- Winter Fair and Lantern Festival

Monday 7th December- Nativity Performance

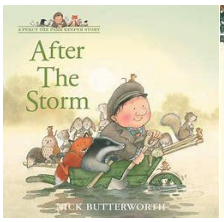
Thursday 10th December- Christmas Jumper Day

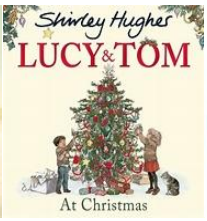
Wednesday 16th December- Christmas Dinner and Christmas Party

Friday 18th December- Last day of term

Communication and Language

Class texts:







Literacy Focus

We will continue to learn the Set 1 Read Write Inc. sounds including the Set 1 digraphs: sh, ch, th, ng, nk, qu. We will continue to segment and blend CVC words using 'Fred Fingers' and magnetic letters. We will also practice writing letters correctly using the Read Write Inc. handwriting rhymes as well as 'Squiggle me into a Writer'.

Home Learning

Please comment in their reading record when you practice sounds/reading at home. When your child is able to blend, they will then take home a phonics book which matches their reading level. **Please keep their reading folder in their school bag** so that we are able to read with your child in school. Your child will also bring home a library book which is a picture book they have chosen to read with you at home. Please ensure it is in their book bag every **Friday** so they can change it in school.

Maths

Mastering Number	We will represent and learn the composition of numbers 1-5. This includes; subitising to 5 (the ability to instantly recognise and number of objects in a small group without the need to count), counting accurately and finding more and fewer than a given number. They will practice adding one and taking away one from numbers 1-5.		
Shape, Space and Measure	We will learn the names of basic 2D shapes and begin to talk about their properties. We will look at ordering daily events relating to time and use the vocabulary of positional language.		
Understanding the World			
Past and Present	We will discuss events from their own past, present and future experiences. We will link this with the study of why some people celebrate Bonfire Night and Christmas. They will also compare toys from the past to the present.		
People, Cultures and Communities	We will learn all about Autumn and the changes which will happen as we move into Winter through exploration of our local environment and visiting our Forest School. We will learn about people around the world who celebrate Christmas.		
The Natural World	We will learn about British woodland animals and whether they hibernate in preparation for winter. We will also learn about night and day and which animals are nocturnal or diurnal.		
Physical Development	In PE we will be doing gymnastics, learning different ways to travel and balance. Working by ourselves and in groups to safely navigate space. We will continue to focus on our fine motor skills, including writing with a tripod grip and safely using scissors.	**Personal, social, emotional development**	This half term, we will continue to help children develop their independence and confidence through praise and reward. We will also focus on how to be a good friend and how to share and take turns.
Expressive Art and Design	We will be learning the songs for our Nativity as well as understanding what a performance is and building our confidence to sing in front of an audience. Children will develop their use of imaginative language within the role play area, acting out narratives with their peers. In Art, we will work on our pencil skills as we learn how to draw woodland animals, inspired by the artist, Martin Ridley. We will also create pictures using printing using paint and a variety of printing objects.	**RE**	While learning about the religion of Christianity, we will focus on the traditions of Christmas. As we learn the Christmas story, we will think about how the different people in the story felt and how Christians believe Jesus was a savior and became a great role model. We will also think about how it feels to give and receive presents and children will be encouraged to talk about their experiences of giving to those that are special to them.