

Autumn 2 - Pre-School Highlights

What a busy half term we have had in Pre-School. Our topic this half term has been Festivals, using the stories of Deepal's Diwali, Stickman, and the Nativity story as our stimuli.

Communication and Language

We have continued to work on our listening and attention skills this half term, playing circle games and memory games. We have also worked on extending our vocabulary through stories and through our topic words.

Our visits to the library have continued and we have been visiting twice a week, where we listen to a range of stories.

PSED

We have been learning about keeping ourselves safe. We have been on a treasure hunt around school looking at things we can safely pick up and things that we need to ask a grown up about. We have also talked about Bonfire Safety and who are safe people are.

Physical Development

We have continued to use the equipment on the KSI playground and we are now all confident in climbing up the rope ladder to cross the swinging bridge, to slide down the slide. We have also mastered how to use the up and over piece of equipment. Alongside this we have been using our listening skills to develop our understanding of instructions in playing a variety of games working on using space effectively.

Literacy

We have been reading the story of Deepal's Diwali, Stickman, and the Nativity story. We have sequenced the stories, thinking about the beginning, middle and end of the stories. We have also retold the stories using puppets, pictures and a nativity set.

Using the story of Stickman introduced us to rhyme and we have been playing rhyming bingo and rhyming games to increase our awareness.

We have continued our library sessions and we are now good at selecting a book, giving it to Mrs Hailwood to read, and then returning it to the correct place on the shelf, with the spine pointing towards the room. We have worked on our understanding of the different parts of books and this has helped us in the library.

One of the stories the children have also worked on is the Gingerbread Man. They have used Write Dance to make marks representing the Gingerbread Man, used listening skills to follow instruction on how to draw a Gingerbread Man, as well as decorating and making clay men.

Maths

We have enjoyed learning lots of number rhymes and using these to support our learning of numbers to 5. We particularly liked using the hoop game to work out how many monkeys were in the hoop, how many were out and how many altogether.

We used the story of Goldilocks to look at number 3 and used the opportunity to work on ordering size.

With shape we have been consolidating our knowledge of squares, circles and triangles, talking about the properties of each shape.

Towards the end of term we have weighing objects, first with our hands and saying whether they were heavy or light, and then using a scale to discover that heavy things make the scale go down and light things go up.

Understanding the World

This half term we have been focusing on the different festivals in the Autumn and Winter times. We initially focussed on Diwali and found out about the story of Rama and Sita. We then watched videos about how a young girl celebrates Diwali. We recreated Rangoli patterns in our outdoor area, ordered the story of Rama and Sita and used playdough to create Diwa lamps.

We then explored Bonfire Night, we found out about the Gunpowder Plot and ordered the story. We created firework pictures, drew pictures of how we celebrate Bonfire Night and how we can keep safe.

Remembrance day was discussed and we found out how we buy poppies to remember the people and animals that died in the wars. We talked about what a war is and created our own poppies to celebrate.

Christmas was our last festival and we learnt all about Jesus. We found out that Christmas day is Jesus' birthday and we talked about what we do on our birthday and what happened on his birthday. We had an Elf visit us and we told him and drew pictures of what we would like Father Christmas to bring us. He has then gone back to the North Pole to share.

We had a lovely time learning new songs for our Christmas performance to our grown-ups. We loved sharing time and making crafts with them too.

As part of our work on Road Safety we learnt about how there are different ways of making sure we can be seen in the dark. We then used this knowledge to create a sash so that Teddy would be safe walking at night.

We learnt lots of new vocabulary about each of the topics.

EAD

We looked at the artist Mary Tuthill and found out about how she uses clay to create her art pieces. We then used that idea to create our clay poppies.

We learnt lots of new songs for the Christmas performance and we have created lots of craft activities for the different festivals.



Well done Pre-School on working so hard this half term.