

Ash Autumn 2 Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome back to another exciting half term. The children have once again settled back into school extremely well and have made an enthusiastic start to their learning.

This half term we are asking Reception parents to say their goodbyes in the playground and not come into the school building when dropping the children off in the morning. This will continue to support the children in developing their independence and organising skills.

Thank you for your support with accessing SeeSaw. It is lovely seeing what the children are getting up to at home to support their learning, they love to share these images and videos with the class. To upload onto SeeSaw, the children need to be logged in on their account. If you have any issues, please see Miss Creig.

Within this newsletter, we will outline:

- A quick look at what we got up to last term
- The Reception curriculum for the half term
- The Nursery curriculum for the half term
- Key texts for this half term
- World Nursery Rhyme Day
- PANTS lesson - Reception
- Key dates
- Reminders

If you have any questions or concerns, please see us either in the morning, afterschool or send an email to ash@astley.worcs.sch.uk

A quick look at last term











Reception Curriculum

This term is our big question is: *How and what do we celebrate at Astley?*

Communication and Language – We are continuing to learn how to be a good listener and how to listen attentively to others. We will also be learning a variety rhymes, poems and songs, confidently talking about stories to build up our familiarity of story structure and understanding. Finally, we will be encouraging the children to use newly taught vocabulary in different contexts, especially vocabulary linked to celebrations.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We are continuing to build constructive and respectful relationships with both our peers and the adults that work with us. We will also continue ensuring that the children see themselves as a valuable individual within our class and school.

Physical Development – The children will develop their fine motor skills further by using a variety of tools including hammers. They will be taught how to use these safely and confidently. Working both individually and as a group, we will move large apparatus safely and use our core muscles strength to achieve a good posture when sitting on the floor and at a chair. Children will also progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.

Literacy – Our phonics lessons continue daily and the children are enjoying learning new sounds and blending them into words. During our English lessons, we will be using our key texts to predict and share our thoughts and opinions. We will also be retelling stories orally and adding expression and intonation into our voices. Across the term, we will use our sound knowledge to form letters correctly when labelling images and begin to write cvc words.

Maths - We are continuing to understanding the composition of numbers 4 and 5. We will look at the height and length of objects, measuring them using non-standard units. Finally, we will end the term by creating and extending patterns.

RE - our question for the term is 'Why is Christmas important to Christians?'. We will discuss how others celebrate important festivals such as Remembrance, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Hanukkah along with learning the importance of Nativity story.

Understanding the World - Children will have opportunities to develop a positive attitude towards others, understand that others have different beliefs and celebrate in different ways. We will continue exploring seasonal changes.

Expressive Arts and Design - We will focus on colour mixing and discuss how colour is used in the different celebrations that we will study. We are also going to learning how to join different materials securely and be introduced to a woodwork station. We will also be learning various songs and rhymes.

Nursery Curriculum

This term is our big question is: *How and what do we celebrate at Astley?*

Communication and Language – We are continuing to learn how to be a good listener and how to listen attentively to others. We will also be learning a variety rhymes, poems and songs and learning new words with encouragement to use them in the correct context. We will begin to listen to slightly longer stories and help explain what happens afterwards using the pictures to help us.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Throughout the term, we are continuing to develop our sense of responsibility and membership within the class and with the support of our known adults become more confident and outgoing with unfamiliar adults. The children will continue to talk about their feelings and name how they feel throughout the day.

Physical Development – The children will continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding and ball skills. They will work with others to move larger items and use alternative feet to climb stairs and apparatus. We are continuing developing the children's core muscles by waving flags and streamers and making marks whilst stood up. Finally, throughout the term, the children will match their developing skills to the activities they choose to do.

Literacy – The children will use key images from our key texts and sequence the story. They will know that print can have different meanings and name the different parts of a book. By the end of the term, children will know we read from left to right and from the top of the page to the bottom.

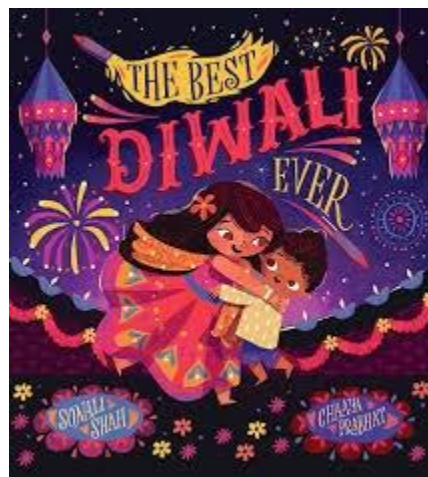
Maths - We will be comparing different amounts using key vocabulary such as: *more, less and the same*. We will then explore the size, mass and capacity of objects and make comparisons about what we can see and feel.

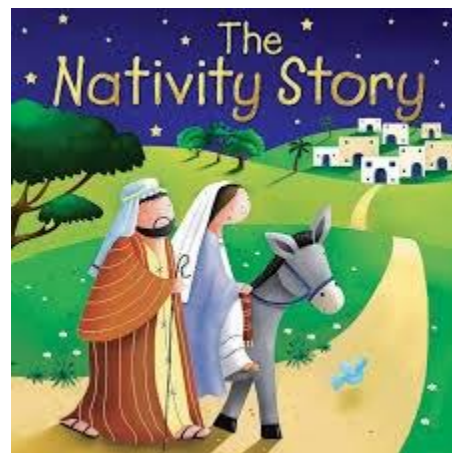
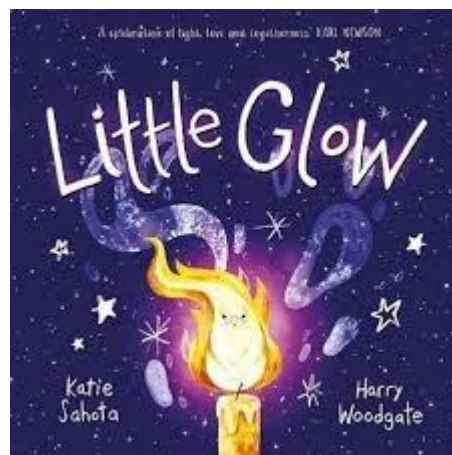
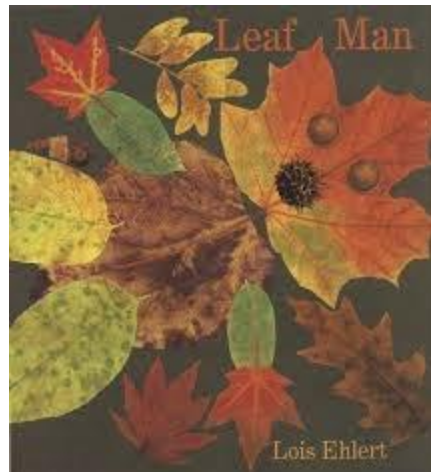
RE - our question for the term is 'Why is Christmas important to Christians?'. We will share how others celebrate important festivals such as Remembrance, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Hanukkah along with learning the Nativity story.

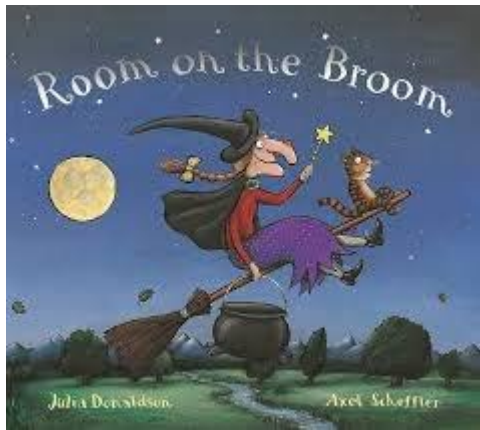
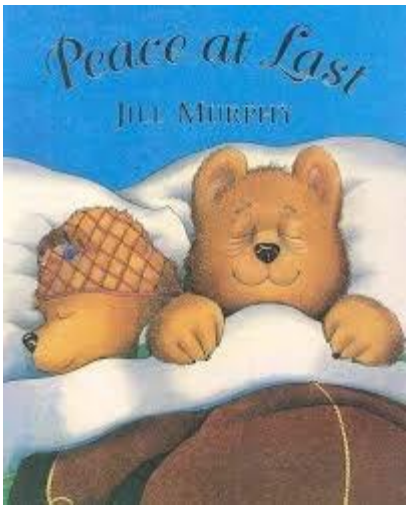
Understanding the World - Children will have opportunities to develop a positive attitude towards others, understand that others have different beliefs and celebrate in different ways. We will continue exploring seasonal changes.

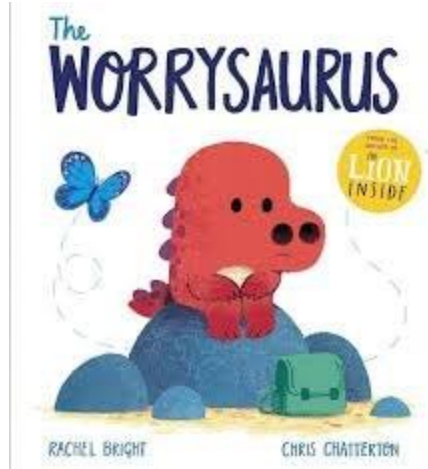
Expressive Arts and Design - We will focus on colour mixing and discuss how colour is used in the different celebrations that we will study. We are also going to learning how to join different materials securely and be introduced to a woodwork station and how to stay safe when using a hammer. We will also be learning various songs and rhymes and know how to create closed shapes with a continuous line to represent objects.

Key texts









World Nursery Rhyme Week

We are looking forward to celebrating World Nursery Rhyme Week across next week. If you can, we would love the children to come dressed as a Nursery Rhyme on Monday 13th November. This could be an outfit but also just a hat or a decoration to their uniform.

Learning rhymes and songs is an important skill for the children to learn as it supports their communication and language development as well as hearing and sharing rhymes, alliterations and new vocabulary.

Did you know:

"If a child knows 8 nursery rhymes by heart by the time they are 4 years old, they are usually among the best readers and spellers in their class by the time they are 8."



PANTS lesson - Reception only

This week in Reception, we will also be sharing the NSPCC's PANTS lesson with the children. This teaches the children that their privates are privates and shouldn't be shared with others. For further information please follow this link: [NSPCC PANTS underwear rule](#)



Key Dates

Friday 17th November - Children in Need Day - come dressed to school as someone who helps you

Friday 17th November - Reception children hearing test

Thursday 23rd November - School individual photographs

Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th December - Parent Consultations

Friday 8th December - Friends Christmas Fair

Tuesday 19th December - Ash Class Christmas Nativity (parents welcome)

Friday 22nd December - Christmas Parties and Last day of term



Reminders

Please ensure all Reception children have returned their outdoor shoes.

On Forest School days, children should come to school wearing their school shoes and Forest School shoes in a separate bag.

Please ensure all belongings are named, including hats and gloves. This makes returning items much easier and successful.

