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Reception Newsletter **w/c 24th November 2025**

Dear Reception Families,

Last week, we learnt all about birthdays! The children made party hats, counted candles, wrote notes for birthday cards, invitations and party shopping lists. In maths the children practiced forming the numbers 4 and 5 and subitized numbers up to 5. We were delighted to see some snow last week! The children ran around trying to 'catch' the snow flakes and exploring what happens when they land on our hands and gloves.

Reading at home

Please ensure you read with your child at least three times a week and record this into their green reading diary. It's really important you record the reading you are doing so that we know this vital activity is taking place. There is no expectation to read the whole book in one sitting, you could read a few pages or alternate pages between adult and child. To support the children's progress in reading and phonics, it is also really important to regularly practice the tricky words, as part of your reading at home routines. We are passionate about ensuring the children develop a love of reading so strongly encourage bed time stories, trips to the library and sharing their library bus book too. We appreciate your support with this.

Learning

Our topic for this term is 'Fantastic Festivals'.

This week, we will be focusing on the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah.

Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.

Communication, Language & Literacy:


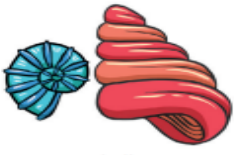






- We will read the book 'Eight Nights, Eight Lights'.
- We will learn some new vocabulary including Menorah, Torah, synagogue and Judaism.
- We will continue to practice the formation of the letters in our names.
- We will continue to practice the formation of the sounds we have learnt.
- We will continue to write CVC words and try to use our new digraphs in words too.

Phonics

We will learn the new digraphs (2 letters which make 1 sound), shown below, and practise our letter formation. We will also learn the new tricky words she, he and of.

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	 <p>shells</p>	<p>Pucker your lips and show your teeth; push the air out shshshshsh shshshshsh</p>	<p>sh Share the shells.</p>
	 <p>thumb</p>	<p>Voiced: Tongue on your teeth, teeth almost closed to make a 'buzzing' th th th Unvoiced: Tongue on your teeth; push the air out th th th</p>	<p>th Thumbs up, we're having fun.</p>
	 <p>ring</p>	<p>Open your mouth a bit and then use your tongue at the back of your mouth to say ng ng ng</p>	<p>ng Bling on a ring.</p>
	 <p>pink panda</p>	<p>Open your mouth a bit and then use your tongue at the back of your mouth to say ngk ngk ngk</p>	<p>nk I think I am pink.</p>

Maths:

We are learning to represent the numbers 4 and 5.

- We will learn how to write the numbers 4 and 5.
- We will represent 4 and 5 on a 5 frame.
- We will explore the composition of 4 and 5.

At home, you could practice forming the numbers 4 and 5. Through play, you could practice counting out 4 and 5 objects using 'careful counting'. Lay out between 1 and 5 objects (pasta pieces, Lego etc) and ask your child to say how many there are. Can they tell you quickly without counting the objects 1 by 1?

Other Areas of Learning:

- **UW (Understanding the World)** – We will talk about the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah. We are excited to welcome in a parent visitor on Wednesday to share information about this celebration.
- **PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)**- celebrating differences. We will learn talk about why our homes are special to us.
- **EAD (Expressive arts and design)** – We will create Menorah candle pictures using finger painting.
- **PD (Physical development)**- we are learning to perform different jumps and movements.

Notices/reminders:

- If your child has a **raised temperature (over 37.5C)** keep them off school until the fever goes away.
- Children with **diarrhoea and vomiting** should stay away from school for 48 hours after the last symptoms have gone.
- We hope that all children will be able to write their names by Christmas. Please support your child with this target by practicing in different ways; it does not have to be pen and paper! Try writing in sand/mud, on the side of the bath, using chalk on the ground etc.
- Just a reminder that costumes are due in to school on Friday.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Morley, Mrs Duxon and Mrs Lewis