

## Our theme for Autumn Term 2

### Overview

Our theme this half term is 'Into the woods'. We will be exploring a range of stories linked to the woods and woodland creatures. The children will be linking their learning to these texts each week. As we approach Christmas we will learn the Nativity story and explore how people celebrate this Christian festival around the world.

### Mathematics

We will continue to develop our counting skills in numbers up to 5. We will also think about comparing groups of numbers, and using the language of more than, fewer than and equal to, in order to compare them. We will also be looking at the composition of 3, 4 and 5. The children will be exploring patterns and shapes including circles, triangles and shapes with 4 sides. Finally we will think about time, in the context of our everyday life, looking at day and night.

### Literacy

In literacy we will be retelling familiar stories, using story maps, small world resources and props. From this, we will begin to learn how stories are structured, interpret characters and describe settings. We will continue learning our Set 1 sounds and use this growing knowledge to complete our daily reading and writing activities. These will include word building and sentence writing challenges.

### Expressive arts and design

Children will be offered the opportunity to learn new songs based around our topic this half term. In preparation for Christmas, we will be learning to dance and move in response to different music. We will also learn new techniques to create an effect, learning to combine materials, creating and talking about different textures. The children will also be developing and recreating narratives in our small world and Roleplay areas.

### Understanding the world

We will be continuing with our walks to Terling Forest and we will discuss what we see along the way and how we can take care of our local woodlands. As we get closer to Christmas, we will share stories about home and family traditions around Christmas time and explore similarities and differences in this time of year around the world.

# Into the Woods!

### Personal, social and emotional development

We will continue to build confidence in asking adults for help as well as speaking to others about our own needs, wants, interests and opinions. We will begin to become more aware of our own feelings, and know that some actions and words can hurt others' feelings, and use these skills to play cooperatively with others. We will share our success and achievements with our peers to develop our confidence in talking about our strengths and abilities.

### Communication and language

Through continuous provision inside and outside the classroom, we will develop our understanding of language by being encouraged to listen to ideas and respond to others and this will help to develop our own vocabulary. We will continue to learn how to ask who, what, when and how questions within all our daily activities and will begin to use more complex sentences to link thoughts.

### Physical development

In PE this half-term, our lessons will focus on developing dance skills and we will be experimenting with different ways of moving. We will also continue to notice the changes happening in our bodies when we exercise. We will continue to develop our fine motor skills in our daily funky finger activities and our doh disco challenges. We will have a weekly scissor control activity and will be engaging in outdoor challenges in both Forest school and the EYFS garden.