

Early Years Foundation Stage

Autumn Term 2026

Welcome to the Autumn Term! This term we will be exploring many different themes that reflect the changing seasons and key celebrations. Our learning will focus on knowledge and understanding of the world around us, supported by our systematic delivery of phonics and maths. Growth Mindset will underpin all of our teaching and learning experiences, ensuring that children understand and learn to use a range of effective learning skills.

As mathematicians we will:

- Learn to subitise small groups of objects.
- Develop our skills, knowledge and understanding of number and place value from 0 to 5. This will include composition and comparison.
- Learn to identify and continue simple repeating patterns including shapes, colours and objects.

Vocabulary: subitise, number, more, less, equal, pattern

As readers and writers we will:

- Experience a rich variety of texts linked to our learning themes.
- Learn new phoneme / grapheme correspondences and apply this to reading and writing in guided learning.
- Begin to apply our phonics skills to reading books at school and at home.
- Learn about correct pencil grip and letter formation and begin to use these skills in independent learning.

Vocabulary: phoneme, blend, sound-out, ascender, descender

Learning Theme: All About Me

- Mrs Strawford will get to know all about Dormice class as we start our school journey!
- Learn rules and routines of the school day.
- Settle into school life with my new friends.
- Learn to be independent during the school day.

Vocabulary: school, friends, family, sharing, play, learning

Learning Theme: Autumn

- Name the four seasons and observe changes for Autumn in our local environment.
- Learn about the habitats and hibernation of some common British wildlife.

Vocabulary: seasons, change, weather, temperature, local, environment, hibernate, habitat, woods, farm, harvest

Learning Theme: Fireworks

- Learn about a historical event and sequence a series of events.
- Know the origins of Bonfire Night celebrations and learn how to stay safe.

Vocabulary: Houses of Parliament, king, plot, gunpowder, treason, London, capital city, government

Learning Theme: Diwali

- Learn about the festival of Diwali, who it is celebrated by, how and why.
- Know about places of worship, religious figures and sacred texts.

Vocabulary: Diwali, celebration, Hindus, diva, mehndi, rangoli, shrine, gods, goddesses

Learning Theme: Christmas

- Learn about the celebration of Christmas, who it is celebrated by, how and why.
- Know about places of worship, religious figures and sacred texts.

Vocabulary: Christmas, Christians, celebration, traditions, church, Bible, nativity, advent, census, manger, Christingle

In PSHE we will:

Follow the Jigsaw scheme and will cover the topics:

- Being Me in My World
- Celebrating Difference

Vocabulary: different, same, friend, responsibilities, rights

In Physical Development we will:

Develop our fundamental movements and confidence in fine and gross motor skills.

Vocabulary: skills, movement, control, space, direction

Trips and Special Events:

We will be taking the children on welly walks to explore our local environment.

Plymouth Argyle will deliver multi skills PE sessions on a Wednesday afternoon.

We will be celebrating Christmas with a Nativity production at school. We hope to see you there!

Parental Involvement

We are looking forward to developing a strong home and school partnership. This year we will continue to use Class Dojo as a platform to share the wonderful things we do at school and you do at home. During the second half of the term there will be Parents Evenings. Details to follow.