Shincliffe CE Primary School Home / School Links

Autumn 2 2026

During this half term the children in **Reception** will be looking at the following areas within their "**Let's Celebrate**" theme:

Curriculum Area	Content to be taught in school	Possible Activities to be completed at home
Communication, Language & Literacy	• Reinforcing the Oxford Reading Tree characters' names from our reading scheme. • Listening for initial sounds in words through playing sound games. • Playing rhyme and alliteration activities. • Continuing to learn the letter sounds using our new "Little Wandle" phonics resources at the rate of 4 new sounds per week. • Blending and segmenting of simple 2 and then 3 letter words. • Beginning to recognise taught "tricky words" on sight. • Beginning to write simple 2 and 3 letter words independently, moving onto writing simple captions.	• When reading stories with your child, stop part way through and ask them to explain to you what they think might happen next. • Support your child by listening to them retell the stories in their school reading books, encouraging them to spot details in the pictures to support them. • Play games like "I spy" to encourage them to hear the initial sounds in words. • Support them with being able to write their first name independently, using the correct letter formation. • Encourage your child to hold a pencil using the correct "froggy fingers" grip when writing, drawing & colouring.
Mathematical Development	• Recognising some numerals of personal significance. • Recognising numerals 1 – 10 consistently. • Counting up to 10 objects accurately and then beginning to count beyond 10. • Selecting the correct numeral to represent 1 to 5, then 1 to 10 objects. • Naming the 4 basic 2D shapes (circle, square, triangle and rectangle) and beginning to describe their properties. • Using everyday language related to weighing.	• Practise forming the numbers, using the "Ten Town" rhymes to aid correct formation. • Play games like "Ludo" which involve counting the correct amount of spaces to move your counter along. • Sing number rhymes and make up your own actions for them (e.g. "10 fat sausages sizzling in a pan", "5 little monkeys bouncing on the bed" etc) • Help your child to use words such as "heavy", "light", "heavier" & "lighter" in the correct context.
Knowledge & Understanding of the World	"Let's Celebrate" – Talk about how people celebrate in different ways, linking to the following festivals: Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali & Christmas (both in this country & in France)	• Talk about how you celebrate each festival as a family. *What do you do? Do you eat any special food, visit any special places or wear any special clothes?*
Technology	• Completing simple programs on an iPad. • Using ICT hardware to interact with age-appropriate computer software. • Beginning to learn how to use a selection of educational apps on an iPad independently.	• Encourage your child to use technology at home themselves to foster independence (e.g. Turning a CD/DVD player on & off themselves, taking photos independently using a mobile phone or a digital camera etc)

RE	Diwali – Talk about the Hindu festival of Diwali and discover how people celebrate. Listen to the story of Rama and Sita, before sequencing pictures from the story in the correct order. Christmas – Listen to the Christian Nativity Story and re-tell it orally in their own words.	• Talk about how you celebrate as a family. *Which festivals do you celebrate? What do you do to celebrate? Do you eat any special food or wear any special clothes?*
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Circle Time – Reinforcing class routines and rules. - Talking about classroom behaviour – "Kind hands, kind feet & kind words". - Discussing our likes and dislikes. - Knowing that we can be friends with others, even if they have different interests from ourselves.	• Practice turn-taking and sharing fairly. • Allow your child time to explore their feelings through talking with you (e.g. helping them to recall when they were happy, when they were excited etc)
Expressive Arts & Design	• Using transient art materials to make fireworks pictures. • Making representations of poppies using different craft materials. • Drawing around our hand & drawing a mendhi pattern on it. • Making Rangoli Patterns out of 2D shapes. • "Christmas" artwork. Music – Listening to & singing along with songs linked to Autumn/Diwali/Christmas	• Encourage your child to hold pencil crayons/felt pens using the correct "froggy fingers" grip. • When your child is drawing, talk about their facial features & the colours that these features are to develop their attention to smaller details.
Physical Development	• Experimenting with different ways of moving in response to music (e.g. by fireworks dancing). • Showing increasing control over an object (a ball/a beanbag) by throwing and catching it. • Handling tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control. • Completing pencil control activities and beginning to show a preference for a dominant hand.	• Encourage your child to dress & undress themselves at home in order to support them to become more independent in their self-care skills. • Play games which involve moving and stopping, such as "musical bumps" or "musical statues". • Practise throwing a ball back and forth with your child, varying the size of ball used. Is it easier to catch a large ball like a football or a smaller ball like a tennis ball? You could make it into a mini-competition - *How many times can you manage to throw and catch it between each other accurately?* • *Can you improve on your score the next time?*