

# Alder Class

## Newsletter Autumn 2

The focus of this half term is 'Celebrations' This involves looking at celebrations celebrated around the world and comparing different cultural celebrations. We will be doing lots of hands-on activities in the classroom linking to the curriculum and the stories read in class.

### Literacy

#### Reading

We will be focusing on a particular book each week, which will generate lots of recall and language opportunities, talking about characters and settings. We will read a variety of books in our daily story sessions linked to the topic - Bonfire Night, Diwali, Christmas etc.

#### Writing

We will be doing lots of mark making (using various resources around the classroom) and drawing. We will be concentrating on the sounds in our name and writing initial sounds in words when completing adult-initiated activities. Once we have learnt more letter sounds, we will be using our phonics to write CVC words.

### Mathematics

#### White Rose Maths

The focus for number will be numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. This involves representing, comparing and composing these numbers. We will also be looking at the shapes linked to these numbers and their properties. We will be learning about spatial awareness- using positional language to explain ours and somebody else's relative position.

Children will be counting, subitising and comparing as they explore the one more and one less concept. With this, they will be noticing patterns.

Finally, we will be learning about the structure of the day - sequencing daily events and using language to describe what happens and when.

### Phonics

We will continue to have phonics sessions twice a day; one in the morning and one in the afternoon. We will also be learning more tricky words (words which cannot be sounded out).

Sounds learnt to date:

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, sh, r.

Sounds we are going to learn:

j, v, y, w, th, z, ch, x, qu.

If you need any support with understanding phonics and how to support at home, please ask Miss Halliday.

### SUPPORT

Counting and ordering numbers to 10 at home.

Singing songs and nursery rhymes on a daily basis will help develop language skills.

Assisting children in hearing initial sounds in any objects found around the house.

Ensuring children are becoming independent with dressing/undressing.



## Other areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage

Communication and Language: Speaking and Listening activities, following instructions, use of who, why, what, where and when questions and responding appropriately.

Physical Development: Team games- co-operation, following instructions and turn taking, developing muscles in the fingers to support writing.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Confidence building, self-selecting activities, expressing feelings and emotions.

Understanding of the World: Exploring similarities and differences in our cultural celebrations, finding out what makes us unique and exploring the world around us.

Expressive Arts and Design: Exploring different textures, junk modelling our own ideas, and creating Diwali lamps.

### The Bulletin Board

**Things to remember:**  
P.E. The school PE kit consists of a red polo t-shirt and black bottoms.  
PE will be **Thursday morning** and kit may be taken home to be washed at the end of the day.

Please put names in all items of clothing: jumpers, shirts, trousers, socks, shoes, wellies etc.

Homework sent on Friday- to be completed and brought back to school by the following Wednesday.

Any questions, please see Miss Halliday or Miss Capon.

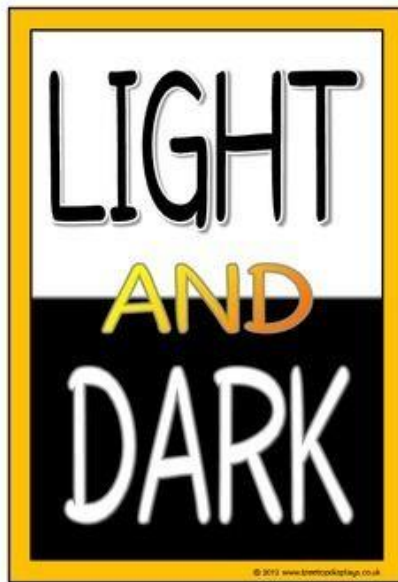
## IMPORTANT DATES

Autumn 2 - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

- 11.11.2020 - Parents Evening 3
- 13.11.2020 - Children in Need (£1)
- 14.11.2020 - Diwali
- 17.11.2020 - Individual School Photos
- WC 16.11.2020 - Anti-Bullying Week
- WC 16.11.2020 - Road Safety
- 17.11.2020 - Odd Socks Day
- WC 23.11.2020 - Allergy Awareness Week
- WC 30.11.2020 - Advent and Christingle
- WC 07.12.2020 - Human Rights Week
- 18.12.2020 - Christmas Jumper Day

Stories online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories>  
Alphablocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/alphablocks-games>  
Numberblocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>





### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

For the personal, social and emotion aspect of the curriculum, we will be looking at how we can help others. We will be talking positively about ourselves and about our abilities. There is a big push in Alder Class at the moment in being able to resolve conflicts independently. We will also be learning to take into account other's viewpoints and ideas.

### Physical Development

We will be using our gross motor skills to create some Rangoli Patterns outside with chunky chinks. In PE, we will be looking at different festivals and how they are celebrated. We will be listening to different types of music and discovering ways of moving to this. We will be mark-making with Christmas cards and writing Christmas Lists.

### Communication and Language

During the curriculum lessons, we will be focusing heavily on group and partner discussions relating to the books and the topic. We will be experimenting and talking about different ideas in detail. We will be debating and considering others' viewpoints while also reasoning and problem solving about these viewpoints.

### Understanding the World

The main focus for understanding the world is to explore different cultures and their way of celebrating. What is Diwali (The Festival of Light), Harvest, Bonfire Night, Christmas?

We will be looking at similarities and differences between the ways Christmas is celebrated around the world. During Forest School, the class will be creating broomsticks, we will be making pumpkin soup and thinking about how to keep safe while cooking.

### Expressive Arts and Design

For expressive arts and design, we will be creating lots of fun things, such as firework pictures, witches' hats, Diwali clay pots, Christmas cards and engaging with lots of Christmas and celebration-related activities. The creative area is one of areas the children can really get imaginative with their own ideas- adapting on what they are learnt and observed.