



# Curriculum Overview

## Autumn Term

September – December



### WELCOME TO AUTUMN

Our Autumn curriculum gives children opportunities to learn through play, relationships, stories, routines, outdoor experiences and intentional adult interaction.

Please remember: children develop at different rates. Our planning is flexible and responsive to each child’s interests, starting point, strengths and emerging needs.



#### COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

We will learn: new vocabulary through conversations, stories, songs and rhymes; listening and responding; taking turns; following instructions; expressing ideas and feelings.

Autumn experiences: story time, small-group talk, singing, story props and sustained shared thinking.



#### PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL

We will learn: belonging, friendships, confidence, feelings, self-regulation, resilience and independence.

Autumn experiences: settling routines, emotion talk, family discussions, cooperative play, turn-taking and practical self-care.



#### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

We will learn: movement, balance, coordination, strength, fine-motor control and healthy habits.

Autumn experiences: outdoor movement, climbing, balancing, mark-making, dough, threading, dressing practice and handwashing.



#### LITERACY

We will learn: story language, comprehension, repeated phrases, rhyme, print awareness, phonological awareness and mark-making.

Autumn experiences: core books, story baskets, rhymes, props and early writing opportunities.

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#### MATHEMATICS

We will learn: counting, quantity, comparing, sorting, shape, space, pattern and mathematical language.

Autumn experiences: count natural objects, compare leaves, measure in cooking, shape hunts and repeating patterns.



#### UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

We will learn: ourselves, families, community, seasonal change, nature, animals and materials.

Autumn experiences: nature walks, weather watching, trees, seeds, animals, local community and seasonal celebrations.



#### EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN

We will learn: express ideas through art, music, movement, imagination and construction.

Autumn experiences: leaf printing, painting, transient art, rhythm, role play, small world, building and natural materials.



### OUR AUTUMN JOURNEY

#### SEPTEMBER

All About Me

- Starting nursery
- New beginnings
- Positive thinking
- Here comes Autumn
- Grandparents Day – Stay & Play

#### OCTOBER

Harvest Festival

- Halloween
- Hull Fair
- Road Safety
- World Space Month
- People Who Help Us
- International Literacy

#### NOVEMBER

Bonfire Night

- World Nursery Rhymes
- Remembrance Day
- Being kind
- Children in Need
- International Keep Fit

#### DECEMBER

Christmas Crafts

- Tree decorating
- Christmas Jumper Week
- Christmas dinner with Santa
- Christmas Party
- Nursery Christmas Fair

AUTUMN THEMES: Belonging • Nature • Community • Celebration



### OUR AUTUMN READING SHELF

**BELONGING & ME**  
Owl Babies • Once There Were Giants • The Colour Monster • The Rainbow Fish • Funny Bones • The Big Book of Families • Pete the Cat

**COMMUNITY & ADVENTURE**  
Stick Man • The Smartest Giant in Town • The Jolly Postman • Farmer Duck • Mr Grumpy’s Outing • The Train Ride • Bob the Man on the Moon • Oi! Get Off Our Train

• The Tiger Who Came to Tea

**NATURE & CHRISTMAS**  
The Emperor’s Egg • Aaaaargghh, Spider! • Diary of a Wombat • The Pig in the Pond • The Tiny Seed • Oliver’s Vegetables • One Plastic Bag • Jasper’s Beanstalk

• Tree: Seasons Come and Go • The Naughty Bus • Christmas stories



#### KEY VOCABULARY TO REVISIT

People & Feelings: family, friend, kind, happy, sad, worried, excited, proud, calm, different

Autumn & Nature: autumn, leaf, tree, seed, acorn, conker, branch, bark, windy, rainy, chilly

Stories & Learning: character, beginning, middle, end, predict, retell, count, compare, pattern, investigate



#### LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

We provide: child-initiated play, continuous provision, outdoor learning, story baskets, small-world play, construction, creative materials and real-life experiences.

**Adults will: model, demonstrate, question, explain, extend vocabulary and join children’s play to deepen learning.**

#### ASSESSMENT • IMPACT • HOME

**Our cycle: Know the child → Observe → Understand → Plan → Teach → Review.**

We look for: growing confidence, communication, relationships, independence, new knowledge, developing skills and children’s ability to apply learning.

Families can help: read together, talk, count everyday objects, explore outdoors and share interests from home.

