Foundation Stage Curriculum Outline
'Once Upon a Time…' Autumn Term (2) 2026

Communication & Language/Literacy (CLL)



As part of our 'Once Upon a Time…' topic, we will be reading a selection of classic fairy tales and learning to retell some from memory. In phonics, we will be focusing on blending and segmenting words orally as well as learning new graphemes and digraphs. As we gain confidence, we will be aiming to spell small words independently. We will also be thinking about our handwriting and how to form letters correctly. We will have many opportunities to talk and express ourselves verbally, thinking about speaking clearly and using repeated phrases and story language from the fairy tales that we have thought about. We will also work on following more complex instructions carefully. There will also be a focus on new vocabulary associated with traditional tales.

Mathematics



In Mathematics we will be developing our skills when counting objects accurately and recognising the numbers up to 5, including zero. We will continue to explore basic addition and subtraction, thinking about 'one more' and 'one less'. There will be a focus on number bonds to 5 as well as forming our numbers correctly when writing them. We will also think about circles, triangles and shapes with 4 sides.

Understanding the World (UW)

As part of our fairy tale topic, we will be thinking about changes that we can observe when we make porridge and cook gingerbread men. We will think about the best materials to use when building a house for the three little pigs and we will think about how our mail reaches us after reading the story of 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. There will also be opportunities to create maps of our local area and to hopefully go and post some letters of our own! We will be thinking about the celebrations of Bonfire Night and Diwali as well as preparing for the most wonderful time of the year! (Sssh! Don't mention Christmas yet, but there is definitely a visit to the man in red and a special performance to look forward to!)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term we will be focusing on the theme of 'Celebrating Difference'. We will be thinking about what we are good at, what makes us special and what makes a good friend. Our feelings and opinions will be an important part of our circle times as we think about how to respond in a range of social situations where we need to consider the feelings of others.

Physical Development and P.E



P.E will continue to be taught on a **Friday morning.** This half term, the children will be working on large motor skills and basic movements, exploring the rules of Dodgeball and working towards playing a team game. We will work outdoors if possible, so warm P.E. kit is essential. There will also be a range of activities on offer each day to develop gross motor skills (e.g. large building blocks, obstacle courses) & fine motor skills (e.g. cutting, Lego).

It is essential that your child comes to school in their P.E. kit on Fridays. PLEASE ensure that all items are named!

Religious Education (R.E.) and Collective Worship



In R.E. we will be exploring the celebration of Diwali for Hindus and Christmas for Christians. We will explore why these are special times and the key traditions for both celebrations. We will explore how we celebrate special times in our own lives, thinking about food, clothes and our own family traditions. We will also visit the church with Year 1 and Year 2 for a St Andrew's Day service in November. Our nativity play with Year 6 will help us to know and understand the Christmas story. In Collective Worship we will focus on the theme of Service.

Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)



There will be many opportunities for painting, drawing, model making and role-play throughout this term! We will be creating posters, collages, models and paintings. Our outdoor role play area will be a fairy tale cottage where we can act out the stories that we have shared together. Inside we will have a 'Gruffalo Café'! Each week we will take part in a music lesson where we will explore our voices and play a selection of musical instruments.

We will continue to send home reading books and phonics activities for you to share with your child. Please spend a few moments each day looking at them. Little and often makes all the difference to your child's learning! New reading books will be sent home each Tuesday. Please don't forget that reading books and diaries need to be in school EVERY DAY. Thank you for your help and support so far. This term is always busy and filled with learning, a time when we really start to see progress with reading and writing!

Mrs Moseley, Mrs Berry, Mrs Slater and Mrs Tyler - November 2026

