Welcome to Squirrels!

Welcome back to Squirrel Class!
This term our topic is Celebrations Around Us. We will explore a range of special events, traditions and festivals, including Bonfire Night, Remembrance, Diwali, Advent, Hanukkah and Christmas.



Communication and Interaction

The children will continue to develop confidence in communicating their wants, needs and ideas using their individual communication systems. Through stories, songs and play, they will build vocabulary linked to celebrations, traditions and special events.

Maths

The children will explore number through songs, games and practical play, including counting, matching and comparing. We will look at patterns, shapes and simple problem solving in real-life celebration contexts (such as creating patterns for Diwali or looking at shapes in fireworks).

Literacy

We will enjoy a range of stories linked to different celebrations, traditional tales and real-life events. The children will continue to build phonics knowledge, recognise and write their own names, and use meaningful mark making, and early writing to share ideas, invitations and lists.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will explore colour, light, pattern and texture through a range of celebration-inspired activities, such as firework art, rangoli patterns, lanterns and Christmas crafts. We will also enjoy songs, music and role play, including preparing for and performing our Nativity.

Understanding the World

We will explore different celebrations and why people celebrate them, looking at traditions, stories and special objects. The children will learn about Remembrance and the importance of remembering, how people celebrate light in different ways (Diwali and Hanukkah), and how people prepare for Christmas around the world.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

Our focus will be on friendship, kindness and respect, including thinking about remembering others and showing care in our community. The children will continue to build confidence, talk about their feelings and develop independence in everyday routines.

Physical Development

The children will continue to develop their gross and fine motor skills through active play, PE, outdoor learning and creative activities. We will build strength, balance and coordination, and use tools such as scissors, glue and paintbrushes to create celebration-related crafts and decorations.

Year 1

Our Year 1 children will continue to build on their EYFS foundations through practical and meaningful learning. In Literacy, they will develop their phonics and word reading, orally rehearse sentences and begin writing labels, captions and simple sentences, using capital letters and full stops when ready. In Maths, we will strengthen counting, subitising and representing numbers, alongside comparing quantities, one more and one less, sorting and pattern. Across the wider curriculum, children will explore a range of celebrations, traditions and special events, including our Nativity.