

What are we learning about this half term?

Theme

During the first two weeks of this half term our learning will be based around Dragons, focussing on the author Julia Donaldson and her 'Zog' and 'Room on the Broom' stories. Our theme will then change to 'Chinese New Year' where we will be learning about similarities and differences between cultures and customs. Throughout the topic we will organise and prepare for our pretend 'trip to China' on Tuesday 7th February (more details to follow).

Literacy

Remember to keep a record in your child's planner when they read at home. Regular reading at home and practising keywords is very important. If you need support with this, please ask.

As readers, we will be;

- Describing main story settings, events and principle characters.
- Identifying and continuing rhyming strings.
- Learning about digraphs; when two letters make one sound.

As writers, we will be;

- Writing for a purpose - luggage labels, lists and passports.
- Segmenting and blending sounds in simple words to begin to spell phonetically.
- Writing labels and captions.

St Nicholas C of E Primary School Reception

Chinese New Year



Mathematics

As mathematicians we will be;

- Adding two groups of objects together to find a total.
- Find one more/one less than a given number.
- Order two or three items by height and length.
- Begin to use mathematical terms to describe 2D and 3D shapes.

Understanding of the World

- As geographers, we will be looking at maps to compare different countries and explore where we live.
- As scientists, we will be looking at how materials change when you add water.
- As historians, we will be identifying ancient Chinese customs that are used today to celebrate Chinese New Year.
- As computer technicians, we will be using age-appropriate apps and websites independently on the iPads and computers.

Expressive Arts and Design

- As musicians, we will be making different musical instruments to accompany songs about Chinese New Year.
- As artists, we will be exploring how different media creates different effects.
- As designers we will be constructing, by stacking blocks vertically and horizontally to make walls and enclosures.

Physical Development

- As gymnasts we will begin to travel with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing apparatus.
- We will be observing the effect of physical activity on our bodies.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- We will be taking on shared responsibility by giving different roles for daily routines within the classroom.
- We will be building our awareness of others and their interests by learning to ask appropriate questions.

Class Routines

- P.E. will be on a Friday morning and Sport on Tuesday afternoons. (Please send an outdoor kit on a Tuesday.)
- Learning through Nature will continue on alternate Mondays.
- Swimming will resume from Wednesday 11th January.