



Orleans Primary School

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Autumn Term 2 Nursery Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

We hope you all had a lovely half term break and that you enjoyed looking through your child's Wow books. We are looking forward to seeing what wow moments you shared over the holiday. Our main topics for this half term are "**Space**" and "**Celebrations**"

We will be learning all about the different planets, rockets and astronauts and will create our very own spaceship role-play area so we can even travel into space!

Our 'Celebrations' focus will see us finding out about how and what people celebrate. We will explore traditional food, decoration, music and clothing. Over the term we will specifically focus on 'Fireworks', 'Diwali' and 'Christmas'. As we would like to make these as personal and special for the children as possible if you have any photographs/books/artefacts or if you would like to come into nursery to read a story or do some craft work linked to a celebration please do come and speak to us about it.

This term is extremely busy so please check the school website, weekly school newsletters and the nursery notice board for the latest information and key dates.

Our curriculum is divided into seven different areas of learning, although they are not taught separately, but are usually linked together.

Personal, social and emotional development

We will continue to focus on taking turns, sharing and helping to tidy up, building self-confidence and behaving appropriately. We will also look at team work and will encourage the children to complete fun tasks such as floor puzzles with friends. We will be developing the children's independence in putting on coats, hats and gloves for outside.

Physical development

We will begin our weekly sessions in the small hall this term (Tuesday) where we will be moving to music and looking at developing control of our larger movements, moving in different ways. Outside we will use all the play equipment to develop an awareness of personal space, aiming to avoid any potential obstructions! We will continue to focus on developing fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination through threading, cutting and sensory based 'messy play' activities.

Communication and language

We will continue to develop sustained listening skills, through learning rhymes and listening to stories. We encourage the use of questioning, to find out more, such as "why" and "how" and "who" and "when". We will continue our weekly circle time discussions which will focus around the adventures of Bertie bear our class bear! Please look at our talk-display board (next to the dough table) which will highlight the latest source of discussion for you to continue at home.



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Literacy

We will continue to introduce and explore stories, songs and rhymes linked to our topics. The children will continue to develop their ability to write through mark-making activities, including writing in space foam and glitter dust! Mark making for a purpose will feature heavily in our space ship role play as we create maps, tickets and send letters in our space post box! Our phonics focus will be on 'tuning into sounds' especially those around us in the environment. We will go on sound walks to explore different sounds and will link this to the story 'Peace at last'.

Mathematical development

Our focus will continue to be on number - counting, matching numbers to sets and using numbers in our play. In particular we will focus on countdowns linked to our space ship and the song '5 little men in a flying saucer'. We will be playing lots of counting games and will introduce dice games and practical problem solving. We will begin to focus on patterns and shapes in the environment and will continue to use shapes for printing and sorting.

Understanding the world

Through our space topic we will be considering the world around us, where we live and how we travel around. We will explore this through lots of imaginative play both as role play in the space ship and small world 'moon' play. As we explore different celebrations we will learn about different cultures and traditions and consider our own and those of our friends through circle times and art work. We will also begin regular cooking activities linked to our topics. In technology we will be learning how to use our sound buttons to record and listen to the sounds.

Expressive Arts and Design

Collage, drawing and painting will continue to be our focus this term, we will explore a variety of colours and materials linked to celebrations, creating firework paintings and creating Rangoli patterns for Diwali for example. We will encourage the children to join in with dancing and movement to music in the small hall. In music we will continue to play with instruments, learning how to respond to stop and start signals and playing fast/slow or loud/quiet.

Don't forget those Wow moments!

Please feel free to take and complete a wow moment sticker for your child at any time (found in the folder at the nursery entrance). We look forward to celebrating these with the children and recording them within their wow books.

REMINDER - School uniform is compulsory - please make sure it is named.

The children will be using the outside area on a daily basis, so please make sure your child has a coat and is dressed appropriately for the colder, wetter weather.

Save the date - On **Tuesday December 13th** the nursery will be performing Christmas carols with Reception (AM-9.30am/ PM - 2pm) More details to follow closer to the time.

© **We welcome a student from Richmond college this term; Charley will be with us every Thursday and Friday** 😊

We ask parents to make a £5 contribution per half term to the nursery - this helps towards buying foodstuffs, dough ingredients and special consumable items that enrich the children's experiences. If you would like to contribute, please do so through PARENT PAY.

Many thanks for your support,

The nursery team.