

Why do we remember the 5th of November?

Below are the areas that we are covering within the theme.

Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	<p>As part of the English work this half term, the children will be studying a range of books including traditional tales and fictional stories. Their focus in English will be verbally retelling the stories, improving their handwriting skills and writing simple sentences.</p> <p>The children will be looking at how to form letters correctly and making sure we write these on the lines.</p> <p>We will teach Phonics daily in order to improve children's early reading skills. They will then transfer this knowledge into their writing.</p>	<p>It is important to read regularly at home – little and often is great to keep up interest in a book.</p> <p>Encourage your child to read for pleasure at home and to share what they have read with the class. They may also like to visit the library to read other books.</p>
Maths	<p>To begin the half term the children will be practising their counting forwards and backwards. The children will be learning to count objects up to 20 and then beyond. We will be focusing on place value and how to read and write 2-digit numbers.</p> <p>Children will have practical tasks where possible and use lots of maths equipment to support their learning.</p>	<p>Practise correct number formation and make sure numbers are the right way around.</p> <p>Encourage children to read and say numbers you see in everyday life such as house numbers, phone numbers, car registration plates etc.</p>
Science	<p>What are everyday materials?</p> <p>Our Science topic this half-term is all about materials. The children will learn that materials are what things are made out of. They will look specifically at the materials wood, metal, plastic, glass, rock and water. They will have opportunities to investigate what they feel like, their properties and what they are used to make.</p> <p>We will be investigating which materials are best to make an umbrella, which links with our significant person Samuel Fox.</p>	<p>Your child could look around your house for different materials.</p> <p>What are objects made from?</p> <p>How do these materials look and feel?</p> <p>They could create a fact file about Samuel Fox.</p>
Computing	<p>Before using the internet, we will be learning about how to stay safe online and how E-Safety applies to all kinds of technology including phones, tablets, games consoles etc.</p> <p>We will be learning how to do all the basics of computing including how to log on, save and open work.</p>	<p>Discuss technology used at home and how children can use this safely.</p> <p>Use the internet to play age suitable phonics and maths games or sing along to songs that help them learn.</p>

Religious Education	<p>This half term the children will be looking at places of worship, where different religions worship and why they worship. They will be discussing places which are special to them and why they are special.</p> <p>The children will walk to the local church for a tour, identifying the symbols the children have learnt about in the classroom and discussing why the church is special to Christians.</p>	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Physical Education	<p>PE kits should be in school every day and can be taken home on a Friday or at the end of each half term to be washed. We will be in touch with you if your child does not bring their PE kit to school.</p> <p>We are very lucky to have a Dance Instructor coming in on a Thursday this half term.</p> <p>Children will also be working on core basic skills such as balance, agility and running whilst also learning to play a variety of games. We will be thinking about the athlete Mo Farah during these sessions.</p>	Can your child practise any new skills at home in your spare time?
Art	The children will focus on the sculpture artist Michael Bolus. They will use paper to create a sculpture. They will cut different sized strips of paper, including wrapping paper, to create a final celebration sculpture.	Using left over bits of paper create a paper sculpture inspired by an interest.
History	<p>Why do we remember the 5th November?</p> <p>The children will be looking at the history of fireworks and The Gunpowder Plot. We will be researching the historical event and writing a recount of the key details. We will look in depth at the life of Guy Fawkes and find out all about his role in The Gunpowder Plot.</p>	Discuss fireworks, firework safety and the history behind Bonfire Night.
Music	In Music, the children will be learning about pitch, tempo and repeated patterns in sound, through learning the song 'Hey You'. The children will use their bodies and some instruments as percussion alongside the singing.	Music is all round us. Is the music your child hears fast or slow? Can they clap along to the beat on the radio or make a beat of their own?
PSHE	In PSHE, the children will be learning about what it means to be a part of a team. They will think about special people, how they care and help people. They will think about how they can also help others.	Talk to children about what they have been learning. What teams are they part of? How could they help people at home?

During this term, our theme is:

Where do we live?

Below are the areas that we are covering within the theme.

Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	<p>As part of our English work this half term, we will be studying a range of stories as well as beginning to look at a range of non-fiction texts. The children will continue to work on writing simple sentences using their ever-improving phonics knowledge. They will also focus on rhyming words and begin to use their phonic knowledge to begin to spell words correctly. The children will also continue to complete a range of fun activities around the stories.</p> <p>In phonics, the children will be continuing the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised programme. The children will be focussing on blending to be able to accurately read words and sentences as well as beginning to spell phonetically plausible words and tricky words.</p>	<p>It is very important to read regularly at home – little and often is great to keep up interest in a book. The children will also take home a ‘reading for pleasure’ book that the children can share with you and you can read together to promote the love of reading.</p> <p>We are working on comprehension and understanding texts which will develop with lots of discussion about characters and events in the book.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term the children are focussing on number, ensuring all children can recognise numbers to 50 and are accurate when adding and subtracting numbers within 20.</p> <p>The children will also develop their understanding of measurement. They will be looking at capacity and volume and starting to recognise and know different coins and notes.</p>	<p>Keep counting things you can see around you and reading house numbers, bus numbers and other numbers you may see in everyday life.</p> <p>Practise number bonds – for example which 2 numbers add together to make 5, 10 or 20. Children should become more familiar with this throughout Year 1.</p>
Science	<p>This half term our Science topic will be seasons. The children will be thinking about seasons and how they affect us. We will be using our mathematical skills to measure rainfall and temperature.</p>	<p>Can children create their own rain gauge at home? They could also create their own weather diary for an upcoming week.</p>
Computing	<p>The children will be learning all about online safety and how to use a computer appropriately. The children will also practise using a laptop by turning it on, logging on and opening up documents.</p>	<p>Discuss technology used at home and how children can use this safely.</p> <p>Use the internet to play age appropriate phonic and maths games or sing along to songs that help us learn.</p> <p>www.phonicsplay.co.uk has some wonderful games to practise developing phonic knowledge.</p>

Religious Education	This half term we will be looking at what do Christians believe God is like and linking this to Christmas.	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Share your own views and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Physical Education	This half term we will be doing gymnastics and looking at body parts. We will continue to work on core stability and agility, which will help us. Our other focus will be on ball skills. We will be focusing on bouncing a ball, dribbling and defending.	Children will need PE kit in school. These will be sent home at the end of each half term. We will need appropriate footwear, a white top, black bottoms and something to keep warm if we go outside.
Design Technology	This half term we will be looking at levers and sliders. We will research, plan and create a Christmas card with a moving part.	Can your child create a short picture book which includes a slider or a lever?
Geography	<p>This half term the children will be learning about houses from the past and the houses we live in today. They will look at the shapes and what materials they are made from.</p> <p>The children will be focusing on where their school is. Looking at the location in Darlington, the distance from their home and what is near their school building. We will be improving our map skills and will create a simple map for our school grounds.</p>	Discuss different housing types as you travel around the local and wider area.
Relationship Education	The children will continue 'Growing Success in Relationships'. They will discuss which people are special in their lives and how we can show our special people we care.	Encourage your children to talk about the special people in their lives.