Christ Church CE Primary School
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER
Reception
Autumn 2 2026

Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- To talk about how they are feeling and to consider others feelings
- To understand the need to have rules
- Begin to develop friendships
- Understand that we are all valuable individuals
- Be able to follow simple one-step instructions
- Focus during short whole class activities
- Understand the terms 'same' and 'different'

Communication and Language
- To begin to understand how and why questions
- To be able to use new vocabulary throughout the day
- Begin to articulate thoughts and feelings with peers
- Develop listening skills
- Use talk to work out problems, organise thinking and explain what is happening
- To be able to talk in front of small groups and their teacher, offering their own ideas

Physical Development
- Explore different ways to travel using equipment
- To accurately draw lines, circles and shapes to draw pictures
- Maintain an effective pencil grip
- Draw and form recognisable letters

Mathematical Development
- Focus on counting skills
- Focus on the 'five-ness of 5' using one hand and the die pattern for 5
- Compare sets – by matching
- Use the language of comparison: more than, fewer than, an equal number
- Explore the concept of 'whole' and 'part'
- Practical exploration of 'parts' and 'wholes'
- Focus on matching, turning and flipping
- Focus on the composition of 3, 4 and 5
- Practise object counting skills
- Match numerals to quantities within 10
- Verbal counting beyond 20

Focus/Theme:
Light and Dark



RE – Why is Christmas special for Christians?
- What celebrations to we celebrate and why?
- What festivals and celebrations are important for other people in our class?
- What is the special story that is celebrated at Christmas by Christians?
- Why is Jesus a special person for Christians?

Literacy
- Engages and enjoys an increasing range of books
- Begin to read captions and sentences
- Begin to form letters correctly
- Explore a book each week linking to our topic
- Recognise rhymes
- Link sounds to letters
- Hear and say initial sounds in words
- Learn to recognise and begin to write own names

Expressive Arts and Design
- Rangoli and Mehndi patterns
- Firework artwork
- Shadow puppets
- Experiment with different textures
- Make props for different role play scenarios
- Experiment with different instruments and their sounds
- Perform songs with others

Understanding the World
- How are Diwali and Bonfire Night celebrated?
- What is day and night?
- How are shadows made?
- Can we name the planets?
- Understand the story of Christmas and associated traditions