

Why are there stars in the sky at night? Does everyone go to bed at the same time? It's time to find out more about night time. This half term, we will be exploring all of the wonders of night time. We will be listening to bedtime stories and nursery rhymes, which will really help us to develop our communication skills. We will be expanding our knowledge of the world and learn about people and services and nocturnal animals. We'll also find out more about how good bedtime routines can have a positive impact on our health, and take part in a series of bedtime challenges.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

PSED will continue to be at the heart of everything we do. We will continue to explore the emotions that we feel at school and the impact of our emotions on our behaviour. We will talk about how to express our emotions in a healthy way. We will be taking part in activities that will help us to build strong relationships with everyone around us.



Maths

We will be focusing on the numbers 1-5 this term. We will be learning to recognise the numerals, count up and down from any given number between 0-5, compare quantities within five, find one more and one less within five. Once we are confident with these skills, we will be moving on to representing five in different ways, using concrete materials and also pictures. We will be spending lots of time finding number bonds for all the numbers up to five.



What happens when you fall asleep?

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Being Imaginative and Expressive

We will continue to find the 'pulse' of different pieces of music and we will learn how to move in time with music. We will be listening to a wide range of songs, discussing how the songs make us feel. We will continue to learn nursery rhymes and, this term, we will focus on 'I'm a Little Tea Pot', 'Oh The Grand Old Duke of York', 'Ring o Roses', 'Hickory Dickory Dock' and 'The ABC Song'.

Communication Language and Literacy

We will be developing our comprehension skills by reading, retelling and discussing a range of stories including:

'How to Catch a Star' by Oliver Jeffers, 'Billy Monster's Daymare' by Alan Durant and 'Emily Brown and the Thing' by Cressida Cowell.

Phonics

We will continue to learn our Phase 2 phonics sounds. We are hoping to complete all of the sounds within phase two by Christmas.

We have covered these sounds:

Set 1: s, a, t, p

Set 2: i, n, m, d

Set 3: g, o, c, k

We will be focusing on these sounds this term:

Set 4: ck, e, u, r

Set 5: h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

We will be reading simple words and captions containing these sounds.

Creating with Materials

We will be using a wide variety of materials to develop our art skills. We will use oil pastels to create our own firework art. We will learn all about the properties and uses of clay and will be have the opportunity to express ourselves creatively using this medium. We will also be learning about different brush strokes and creating our very own planets art work.

Physical Development

The children's PE kits are on order and will be arriving in school shortly. These will be sent home as soon as possible. Our P.E. days will be Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure that your child comes in to school in their P.E kit on these days. Black jogging bottoms can be worn in place of shorts.

On Mondays, the children will take part in a 'Jabadao' session. These sessions will be tailored to the children's developmental movement needs. They will help to build your child's core strength and gross motor skills.

During this term's Thursday PE sessions, we will be learning a range of fun team games that will help us to develop a sense of teamwork. We will also be focusing on our throwing and catching skills.

Key Vocabulary:

Nocturnal animals: animals that sleep during the day and come out at night.

Diurnal animals: animals that sleep during the night and come out during the day.

Stethoscope: the instrument a doctor uses to listen to your heart beat.

Appointment: arranging to meet at a particular time.

Constellation: patterns made by the stars.

People, Culture and Communities

We will be learning all about people who work at night. Our indoor hospital and outdoor fire station role play areas will help us to develop our vocabulary. We will learn about all the different equipment used by firefighters and doctors and we will get the chance to use them in our role play areas.

The Natural World

We will be learning all about nocturnal animals. We will learn about the different senses that help animals to survive at night time. We will continue to talk about the changing seasons and discuss how winter is different to autumn.

Family Learning Opportunities

Help your child prepare for their project 'The night is all right!' Why not do some stargazing together after dark, either from your garden or, even better, a rural location with minimal light pollution? There are apps you can use on your phone to help you to identify stars and constellations! You could also keep a dream diary, noting down and comparing dreams with each other. Alternatively, talk to people in your family who have worked at night. What are the similarities and differences between working in the day compared to at night?

Recommended Reads:

'Emily Brown and the Thing' by Cressida Cowell

'How to Catch a Star' by Oliver Jeffers

'Billy Monster's Daymare' by Alan Durrant

