

Autumn Term 2 2025

What will we be learning and how can you help at home?



This term we will continue to learn about autumn and will be talking about how to keep safe during bonfire celebrations. As we edge into the winter months, we will be reading lots of cosy Christmas stories, and will be putting on our very own Christmas play before the end of term.

We will be continuing to develop drawing and writing skills through our **Drawing Club** activities. Our key books this term are *The Leaf Thief*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Stick Man*, *Owl Babies*, *The Christmas Story*, and *Slinky Malinki's Christmas Crackers*.



The children are now familiar with **Mastering Number**, the scheme we use to teach maths in Reception. This scheme uses The CBeebies characters from 'Numberblocks' to help young children engage with maths, and begin problem solving with number. This term they will be practicing counting, ordinality and cardinality (knowing that the last number tells us 'how many', and will be continuing to count accurately using one-to-one correspondence. This term the children will also be learning about comparison, and how to work out whether groups of objects have 'more' or 'fewer' items. Mastering Number will also be covering the idea of composition: the concept that things are made up of parts to make a whole. The children will be learning about this by seeing how their own bodies are made of parts, and by using familiar toys and numbers. Please keep a lookout for the Maths Scrapbooks, which are sent home fortnightly, for lots of maths fun!

Phonics and Reading

The children have learnt the following phonemes during the Autumn 1 term:

s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r h b f l. They have been practicing letter formation and writing CVC words, and have also learnt the tricky words **the**, **I** and **is**.

This term the children will continue to be introduced to Phase 2 phonemes, which are: **ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk**. The children will also practise reading and writing words ending in **s**. Our tricky words this term are: **as and has his her go no to into she he of we me and be**.

The children will continue to bring a reading book home each week, which will start to have simple words and sentences in, as they begin to blend and segment words. They will also choose a book from our library to bring home and share with their families.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our school rules of being **Ready, Respectful and Safe** are now very familiar, and when involved in activities we '**choose it, use it and put it away!**' This term we will be learning about the NSPCC character 'Pantosaurus', and how his catchy song can help to keep us safe.

The children will be learning about keeping safe around bonfires and fireworks, and will have the opportunity to create their own bonfire safety posters.

We have lots of creative opportunities for the children this term. We will be exploring paint with different tools such as sticks, to see how these differ from familiar paintbrushes. We will be creating poppy images for Remembrance, using collage materials, paper and fabric. The children will continue to practise mark making techniques as they draw portrait pictures for their own calendar, as we head towards 2026!

Our Creation Stations are available every day for the children to explore artistic techniques, and to express themselves using art and craft materials. They use a range of tools for fine motor development; something you may want to encourage at home, too!



Understanding the World

We have so much to learn about this term! We'll be studying seasonal change and signs of autumn as the term starts. We will also be learning about nocturnal animals and the difference between day and night. We also have lots of learning opportunities as we find out how to make porridge and party food, how to look after our teeth, what different families look like, and how Christmas is celebrated around the world. We'll be very busy!

Autumn and Winter Weather

The children will continue to spend a lot of time outside, as they will choose their learning both outside and inside each day. Please ensure that your child has adequate clothing, wellies and splash suits so they are able to maximise their learning opportunities in our outdoor areas!



Independence Skills

We encourage children to make choices independently, and to try and do things by themselves. Even when jobs feel tricky, we urge children to try to do things independently first of all. This includes putting on coats, hats and gloves, using cutlery, pouring liquid from jugs, using tools, and solving problems. Doing things by themselves, without asking for immediate help, is something you can encourage at home, too. Of course, we all need support with things sometimes, and it's lovely to see how readily the children help one another if they see their friends struggling a bit!

Fine Motor and Gross Motor Skill Development

Young children need lots of opportunities to develop their manual dexterity and fine motor skills. Any activity that uses hand and finger muscles is crucial for this. Pursuits to encourage at home include threading, lego, art activities, using pegs, small world play, play dough, cutting and snipping with scissors. Mark making with different tools can be a fun thing to do together. Gross motor play is very important, too, so encouraging your child to move in different ways is also vital for their development. Games involving moving with different speeds, using different motions, climbing, balancing and running are all great for physical development, as well as being good fun! If you have any queries or would like more ideas about how to support your child's physical development, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Tapestry

At St Faiths, we actively share what the children have been doing, individually and as a class, and regularly update our Tapestry pages. We love to see and hear what the children have been doing at home, and Tapestry is a superb way of sharing your news with us. We also inform families of Reception news, things to remember, and our weekly plan for phonics, so it's a good place to keep in touch!

If you have any issues with your account, please talk to a member of staff, and we'll try and sort it for you as soon as we can!



Instagram

The EYFS team created a profile last year. We actively share glimpses of class life, so you can have a taste of our indoor and outdoor provision, set up for the children to engage with.

Please use the QR code to view our Instagram content, to like or to follow.

The staff enter competitions and tag the profile in order to win resources and experiences for the children in our classes.



Working Together

Please let us know if there is anything you are worried about concerning your child, and please ask if you are unsure of anything happening at school. We all want your child's school experience to be happy and fulfilling. If your child has had poor sleep, or if they are upset or unsettled, please let us know in the morning so we can keep an extra eye on them.

Diary Dates

Pre-loved uniform sale in library 2:30 on Tuesday 11th November

Children in Need cake sale – Friday 14th November

World Hello Day – Friday 21st November

Family drop-ins (you can come into your child's class to look at their work) Tuesday 25th November, after school

We Are Wonderful Wednesday – 26th November

Reception Christmas Play – Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December (Details to follow)

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 11th December

Christmas Church Service – 10am Monday 15th December

Party Day – Thursday 18th December

