### Reception – Autumn 2

This half-term we will develop a range of writing skills and concepts using the stories 'Look Up!' by Nathan Bryon and 'Halibut Jackson' by David Lucas. We will introduce the children to various forms of writing and expression, such as non-chronological reports, dialogue, diaries, re-telling and creative writing, all while fostering a love for reading and storytelling. The focus will be on the development of early literacy skills through fun, interactive and imaginative exercises inspired by the characters, themes and events in both stories.

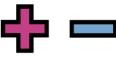
#### Literacy



Look Up! is an uplifting and vibrant story about a young girl named Rocket, who loves looking at the stars and dreams of becoming an astronaut. She encourages everyone around her to look up at the sky and take notice of the wonders above them. This story fosters curiosity and awe about space, nature and dreams, and celebrates Rocket's enthusiasm and determination.

Halibut Jackson tells the story of a boy who feels overlooked because he is very plain and dull-looking compared to his vibrant friends. He finds ways to make himself stand out and show his unique talents, ultimately learning that being himself is the most important thing. This story is about self-esteem, individuality, and accepting oneself.

#### Maths







This half-term we will be focusing on developing fundamental mathematical skills that will lay the foundation for future learning. Through practical, handson activities, we will explore numbers, shapes, positional language and basic time concepts. This will include introducing the numbers 1, 2, and 3 through representation with objects, pictures and numerals, representing numbers from 1 to 5 in various ways, and understanding the concepts of "one more" and "one less" in relation to numbers 1 to 5.

#### Reception – Autumn 2

# Communication and Language



We will be focusing on supporting positive interactions between peers, helping children learn how to share, take turns and express their needs and feelings clearly. This will also involve using polite words like "please", "thank you" and "sorry." We will encourage children to express their emotions and understand the emotions of others through activities like storytelling, drawing and discussing feelings in group sessions. We will also be encouraging and practicing asking and answering questions to develop both comprehension and expression.

## Expressive Arts and Design



Our Reception children will focus on developing their creativity and self-expression through a range of engaging Art and Design activities. We will explore different techniques, experiment with various materials and look at the work of famous artists, such as Picasso, to inspire our artwork.

The curriculum will nurture fine motor skills, encourage exploration of shapes and colours, and introduce children to key artistic concepts such as proportion, realism, and texture. We will have opportunities to explore a variety of media, both indoors and outdoors, to create their own masterpieces.

## Personal Development



In Autumn 2, we will focus on exploring what makes each child unique, while also recognising the similarities and differences in others. Through engaging activities and stories, we will develop a sense of identity, empathy, and care for others, as well as understanding the importance of friendship and family. The curriculum will emphasise both social and emotional learning as children build relationships, recognise their emotions, and discover the value of kindness.

### Reception – Autumn 2

## Physical Development



For Autumn 2, the focus in Physical Education will be on developing key physical skills, including following instructions, balancing, and engaging in fun games. These activities will help the children build strength, coordination, and confidence, while also improving their ability to listen and follow directions. The children will be encouraged to work together, listen to each other and take turns during games. This will help them practice team skills and develop their social communication while being physically active.

### Understanding the World



This half-term we will be exploring a wide range of exciting topics to help us understand the world around us. The curriculum aims to spark curiosity about people, places, the natural world, and the changes that happen around us. Through hands-on activities, stories, and discussions, the children will develop their knowledge of how their families celebrated when they were younger and how we all celebrate in different ways. We will be focussing on Remembrance Day, Diwali, Christmas and Hanukah. As part of our topics, we will be exploring space (including Earth), looking at the changes in Autumn and Winter, including melting and freezing, Arctic animals and animals that hibernate.