



Registered Charity No: 1026436



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## Topics for Term 1

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2009

Welcome back everyone!

We hope you all had a lovely summer break and are ready for a whole new school year.

We would like to begin with welcoming our new staff members, Jen and Becci – we know they will fit in well and make our team complete!

We have such an exciting term planned! We are going to start by sharing our summer holiday adventures and any news we have. During these seven weeks we are going to be talking about so many things, including: 'All About Me', Harvest, the changing seasons, celebrating Diwali and 'All Saints Day'. We would love for any parents or family members to come and share any experiences or stories with us at pre-school, especially things that are topic related. We will be talking about special days that people celebrate and traditions that we have. We will also be practising our fire drill on a weekly basis.

We will be changing the way we do snack time – the children will have regular interaction in small groups with their key worker, and daily news time will be reintroduced, so please could you encourage your child to bring in one item of news (topic related would be great) for group discussion. This news item should be placed in their post box. This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to build confidence, social and language skills and knowledge of their world. We are continuing with our letter and number of the week and jolly phonics.

To make the key worker system more significant to your child and to help with settling them in, each member of staff has been assigned a colour, with the colour of each child's shape matching their key worker's colour. Colours are as follows:

Kerri –orange

Bex A –yellow

Jen –green

Jane –blue

Bex H –pink

There will be a list on the wall in the playroom and in the kitchen to help parents/carers. These colours will become significant at snack time as well – This will be explained in more detail when you come in to help.

Thomas the Bear has had a break from travelling over the summer and will be raring to go on his first visit home with someone during the first week back. Please ensure you return him promptly after a three period so that he can visit as many children as possible, and don't forget to add to his adventure book!

Don't forget to keep up with what the children are up to – check the white board for any daily updates. And if you have anything to share about your child's achievements or experiences please don't forget to fill out an information exchange form so that these can be added to your child's learning journey.

All staff are available before or after sessions, or at a time more convenient for you, so please do not hesitate to come and talk to us.

**Week 1 – My Summer holidays**

This week we will be talking about our summer holiday experiences, sharing and showing anything the children want to with their friends.

**Week 2 – All about me**

We are talking about ourselves – what we use our hands and feet for and about our favourite things. Please can the children bring in some of their favourite songs or stories.

**Week 3 – Harvest**

This week we are talking about food – where it comes from and about what food is good for us, and the importance of healthy eating. We are hoping to get together with school for a Harvest Festival.

**Week 4 – The changing seasons – Summer and Autumn**

Our outdoor theme is a fantastic excuse to get outside for walks and games on The Green. We will be talking about the differences between the two chosen seasons and looking at our local area and the changes the seasons make to the forest. We will take the opportunity to put some of the children's work on the wall to make a seasons display.

**Week 5 – The changing seasons – Winter and Spring**

This week we will continue looking at the seasons and the changes that happen in the forest, concentrating on what happens to our environment in Winter and Spring. We will continue to add to the seasons display this week.

**Week 6 – Diwali – the celebration of light**

This is an exciting new topic for us to explore this colourful festival. We will be learning about the traditions involved in this beautiful celebration, and the music and foods that help to make this day special.

**Week 7 – All Saints Day – people who do good things and help others**

This is also a new and exciting topic for us to explore. We will be talking about people who do good things and encouraging the children to do a good deed each day. This is a good opportunity for us to talk about our feelings and friendships.

We are planning to have a parents' coffee evening near the end of this term to provide you with the opportunity to catch up with your child's key worker, read through their learning journeys and meet the Committee – who will be serving tea, coffee and biscuits. You will also be able to talk to the Committee about the roles open for new members and how you can get a little more involved in your pre-school.

During this term we have a variety of exciting topics to explore! If you wish to join us or share anything with the children please let us know – we always welcome your support.

Many thanks to you all for your continued support.

*Kerri, Bex, Jane, Jen, Becci & Emma*