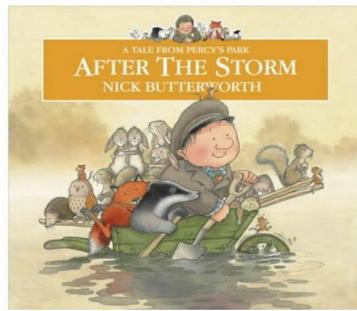


**Dear Reception and Nursery Parents,** here is our topic for this half term. Please use it to aid your own research or bring things into class to support our learning. Have fun!



**As communicators we will:**

Play listening games and building a bank of exciting words to describe day and night. We will discuss our dreams and fears of the dark.

We will orally retell stories through role play.  
We will talk about what we would like for Christmas!

**As readers and writers we will:**

We are reading: 'After the storm' by Nick Butterworth.  
'This is the bear and the scary night' by Sarah Hayes.  
A Diwali story 'Lighting and Lamp' by Jonny Zucker  
The Christmas nativity story and The Jolly Christmas Postman by Janet & Alan Ahlberg.

We are learning to write for different purposes.  
We will be writing letters to Santa and Christmas cards. In our post office role play area we will be writing letters, postcards and labels for parcels.

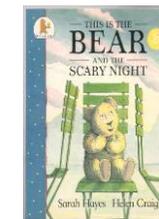
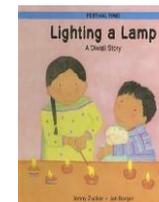


**As mathematicians we will:**

Create our own repeating colour/shape and sound patterns and to describe them to our friends.  
We are developing our number skills, learning to recognise and form the numbers from 1-10 correctly.  
We are learning about the concept of time from day to night. We will sort items from day/night.  
We will sing songs to do with counting forwards and backwards e.g. 10 little fireworks.

**As individuals and friends we will:**

Learn how to stay safe around fireworks and bonfires.  
We will talk about Christmas traditions in our homes and celebrations from other faiths.  
We will learn the importance of being kind and respectful to others, and learn how we can care for those who need our help, by filling a Save the Children Christmas shoe box.



**Why do we watch fireworks at night time?**



**As artists, actors and musicians:**

Make firework pictures using paint, chalk and glitter.  
Make nests for nocturnal animals.  
Make day/ night sounds using instruments.  
We will prepare for our Christmas play, learning new songs, lines and how to be confident performers.  
We would love to practise our Christmas play songs at home so that we can be especially confident when we perform.  
We will make winter and Christmas pictures, using a range of materials and textures.

**As healthy movers we will:**

Handle tools in the classroom safely.  
Using play dough and clay, we will make our hands strong for writing.  
Form recognisable letters in our writing.  
We will use a Winter theme (and Christmas) to learn how to move freely in a range of ways, and to run skilfully, negotiating spaces successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles. We will also learn how to stand on one foot!

**As explorers and investigators we will:**

Learn about and explore signs of Winter.  
Learn about changes in the weather from Autumn to Winter.



We will learn about nocturnal animals and the differences between day and night.



**As effective learners we will:**

Work together, taking turns and sharing.  
Show our particular interests. Take on a role in our play.  
Take risks and try new activities. Try again when something doesn't work the first time.