Reception

📍 Week 1 — Diwali/Bonfire Night!

Learning Intentions: Recognise that people celebrate special occasions in different ways and that Diwali is an important festival for many Hindus and Sikhs. Begin to talk about how families celebrate special occasions, noticing similarities and differences. Explore how light, colour and pattern are used in celebrations. Develop an understanding of how to keep safe around fireworks and bonfires. Use new vocabulary to describe celebrations and explain what children notice

Key Vocabulary: **celebration**, **religion**, diwa

White Rose Maths: More and Less
RE: What Times are Special and Why?
Music: My Musical Classroom
What we'll be doing: - Create firework art and Diwali patterns using a range of materials. Explore rangoli patterns, clay diwa lamps.

📍 Week 2 — Light & Dark (Book: How to Catch a Star)

Learning Intentions: Explore light sources and investigate how light and shadows can be observed. Talk about what happens when light is blocked and make predictions during simple investigations.
Listen to and discuss How to Catch a Star, using illustrations to anticipate events and explain ideas.Retell key events from the story, using new vocabulary and sequencing language. Develop imaginative play in the dark den, using talk to plan, solve problems and share ideas.

Key Vocabulary: **shadow**, **afraid**
White Rose Maths: Circles and Triangles
What we'll be doing: - Exploring dark den, artist focus piece (Van Gogh), investigate star constellations with pom poms, use imagination to work out how to catch a star

📍 Week 3 – Light & Dark (Book: Foggy Foggy Forest)

Learning Interntions: Use visual clues, silhouettes and descriptive vocabulary to identify and talk about woodland animals and settings. Listen carefully to rhymes, identify rhyming words and experiment with making rhymes. Develop story language by predicting, describing and creating ideas about what might be hidden in the forest. Build on previous learning about light and dark by exploring how visibility changes in different conditions.

Key Vocabulary: foggy, **author**, **rhyme**, silhouette
White Rose Maths: 1,2,3,4,5
What we'll be doing: - Explore shadow puppets in dark den, explore a range of Nick Sharrat stories, Cinema Trip, Create a class rhyming book, explore silhouettes

📍 Week 4 – Celebrating Birthdays

Learning Intentions: Talk about birthdays and other special events, sharing personal experiences and listening to others. Begin to understand the sequence of events over time, using language such as before, after, yesterday and next. Explore the names and order of the months of the year through meaningful repetition. Apply counting, comparing and number composition through birthday games and practical activities.
consolidating understanding of numbers 1-5.

Key Vocabulary: celebration, tradition, **months of the year.**
White Rose Maths: 1,2,3,4,5
What we'll be doing: share family photos, create birthday cards, invitations and party role play. create pattern wrapping paper

📍 Week 5 – Post Office (sending cards & gifts)

Learning Intentions: Understand the role of the post office and postal workers in the community. Explore how letters and parcels are addressed, sorted and delivered. Recognise that writing communicates a message to another person. Apply taught phonics to write labels, lists and simple messages that are appropriate to each child's current stage. Use mathematical language to describe, sort and compare

Key Vocabulary: post, letter, parcel, stamp, address
White Rose Maths: Shapes with four sides.
What we'll be doing: write and post real letters to our family, explore 2d and 3d shapes when sorting mail, develop imagination through role play.

📍 Week 6 — Christmas (Nativity and Dear Santa)

Learning Intentions: Explore the Christian Nativity story and understand that Christmas is an important celebration for Christians. Recognise that families celebrate Christmas in different ways and discuss traditions respectfully. Develop early writing through letters or lists, applying taught phonics to communicate ideas. Rehearse songs, actions and speaking parts, building confidence and working collaboratively.

Key Vocabulary: Nativity, Christmas
White Rose Maths: 1,2,3,4,5 Asessment
What we'll be doing: - exploring Christmas traditions through role play, practising class performance, making Christmas cards
2nd Royal Write - CVC list

📍 Week 7 — Christmas Performance

Learning Intentions: Learn about the Christian story of the Nativity. Sing familiar songs, increasingly matching pitch and following the melody. Use voice, movement and actions to communicate meaning during a performance.
Listen to others, take turns and contribute to a shared performance. Develop confidence when performing for an audience.

Key Vocabulary: performance, Christmas, Nativity
White Rose Maths: 1,2,3,4,5 Asessment
What we'll be doing: - performing our Christmas show. Enjoying an end of term party.

🌟 Our Autumn 2 Journey

By the end of Autumn 2, children will have explored different celebrations and traditions, discovered the wonders of light and darkness, developed their storytelling and communication skills, learned about people who help us in our community, and celebrated the joy of Christmas through music, performance and shared experiences with their families.