Autumn 2: Community, Change and Celebration



During Autumn 2, children strengthen communication, relationships and independence while exploring community roles, seasonal change and the Christian story of Christmas. Learning is organised through daily phonics and mathematics, short transcription sessions, stories, first-hand experiences, carefully taught skills and purposeful play.

Communicating and belonging

- Listen for longer, respond to questions and explain an idea with increasing detail.
- Recognise that people have different strengths, feelings, homes and experiences.
- Cooperate, take turns, use words for needs and begin to resolve simple disagreements.
- Keep trying when something is difficult and use a familiar strategy or ask for help.

Thinking and understanding

- Explore community roles through stories and the Little City visit on 19 November.
- Compare groups, explore whole and part, compose numbers to 5 and count carefully.
- Use objects, photographs and memories as evidence about the present and the past.
- Revisit one outdoor view and describe how autumn changes towards winter.

Reading, creating and performing

- Develop phonics, blending, letter formation and spelling through two transcription sessions weekly.
- Retell familiar stories and use repeated language, roles and props in play.
- Choose familiar joining, painting, printing and construction techniques for a purpose.
- Learn songs and movements and take part in the Christmas performances on 17 and 18 December.

Questions we will explore

What roles do people have in our community? • How and why do people celebrate special times? • What changes as autumn becomes winter? • How can familiar stories help us tell, retell and perform?

Stories, shared repertoire and key experiences

Our focus texts

- A Little Glow
- Last Stop on Market Street
- Emergency!
- Kipper's Birthday
- The Gingerbread Man
- The Christmas Pine
- Bunnies in a Sleigh

Rhymes and Poetry Basket

- Humpty Dumpty
- Breezy Weather
- Row Row Row Your Boat
- Wise Old Owl
- Five Little Ducks
- Who Has Seen the Wind
- Revisit a favourite

Important experiences and dates

- Little City visit: Thursday 19 November.
- Repeated autumn-to-winter observations.
- Christmas learning and short rehearsals during Weeks 5–7.
- Christmas shows: Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December.

How families can help

- Share the focus stories and talk about characters, events and predictions.
- Talk about familiar community roles and how different people help others.
- Count real objects, compare groups and ask: Which has more, fewer or an equal number?
- Practise the term's rhymes and poems through relaxed repetition.
- Notice changes in weather, trees, daylight and clothing as winter approaches.
- Encourage children to dress independently, care for belongings and keep trying.
- Keep performance talk positive and low-pressure.

