Autumn 2 - Curriculum News - Willow Year R

Learning Journey 3 - 'Let's Explore Autumn'

Hook: Squirrel has lost his leaves…go on a Autumn Wellie Walk to find them!

Focus: We will use our senses to explore the natural world around them. We will investigate a range of natural materials and notice changes outside at this time of year during Autumn.

End Point: Read 'Leaf Man'. Go on an observational walk and collect natural resources such as leaves, sticks and conkers. Use the items to create some natural artwork. Take a photo of their artwork with a tablet.

Learning Journey 4 - 'Starry Nights'

Hook: A dark den with books and torches!

Focus: We will build on the idea of day and night and learn the word 'nocturnal'. We will learn that nocturnal animals are awake and active at night and are also sleep during the day, when humans are awake. Children will use light sources such as torches to observe how they can see in the dark. We will explore how shadows can be made when using torches.

End Point: Children explore and make shadow puppets by placing puppets in front of the light.

Our School Values:

Have Courage
-We would like the children to have courage to tell other people about themselves and the things they like.

Be Kind
-We would like the children to learn and feel that each one of us is loved, special and important.
-We would like the children to hear and accept praise and encouragement from others.

Shine
-We would like the children to recognise we all like different things and this is one of the ways we are unique
-We would like the children to acknowledge we all have different talents and skills.

Our Beaulieu Curriculum: English

In Reading we will learn to…



-answer simple questions about the book
-join in with songs and rhymes
-take home a sharing book to enjoy weekly
-join in with group reading sessions, three times a week - starting with a picture book, then a book with words
-join in with a **daily phonic lesson**:
*learn new sounds: ***ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu sh th ng nk***
*learn tricky words: ***put pull full as and has his her go no to into she push he of we me be***
*begin to recognise some of the tricky words in books
*orally blend sounds together
*read words with s added at the end…eg. hats, sits
*blend words

Adults will promote a love of reading throughout the curriculum and environment.

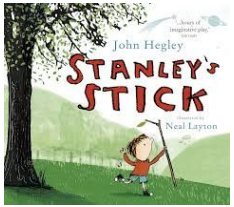
In Writing we will learn to …

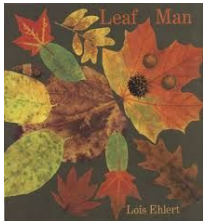
-form identifiable letters and begin to form letters correctly
-identify initial and final sounds
-begin to hear and find magnetic letters to make CVC words
-begin to write CVC words
-write short captions
-make labels
-write Christmas cards
-write lists using their dominant sounds

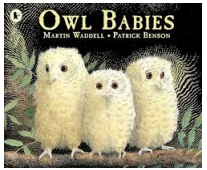


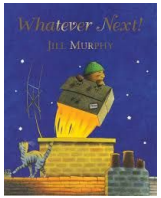
Texts:

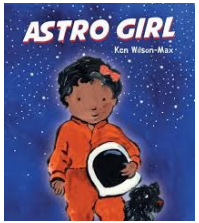


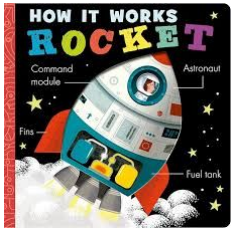


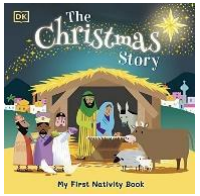








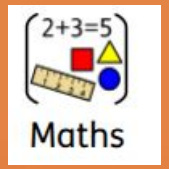




Maths:

In Number, we will learn the following:

Autumn 2	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Focus	Counting, ordinality and cardinality	Comparison	Composition	Composition	Counting, ordinality and cardinality
Set 2	Focus on counting skills Focus on the 'five-ness of 5' using one hand and the die pattern for 5	Comparison of sets - by matching Use the language of comparison: *more than, fewer than, an equal number*	Explore the concept of 'whole' and 'part'	Focus on the composition of 3, 4 and 5	Practise object counting skills Match numerals to quantities within 10 Verbal counting beyond 20



In Shape, Space & Measures we will learn…

Circles & Triangles:
-to identify and name, compare circles and triangles
-about shapes in the environment & describe position

Shapes with 4 sides:
-to identify and name, combine shapes with 4 sides
-about shapes in the environment & my day and night

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

JIGSAW - 'Celebrating Difference'
Learning:
-I can identify something I am good at and understand everyone is good at different things.
-I understand that being different makes us all special.
-I know we are all different but the same in some ways.
-I can tell you why I think my home is special to me.
-I can tell you how to be a kind friend.
-I know which words to use to stand up for myself when someone says or does something unkind.



Expressive Arts and Design: MUSIC

'Celebration of Music'

We will learn:

- that Diwali celebrates music, dance and light.

-the names of traditional Jewish instruments: kinnor, shofar, drum, tambourine, cymbals and flute.

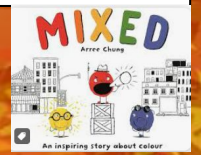
Expressive Arts and Design: ART



We will learn that:

-there are famous artists.
-Kandinsky is a famous artist.
-red, blue and yellow are prime colours.
-red, blue and yellow can be mixed to make secondary colours.
-colours can be made darker or lighter by adding black or white or by adding more water.
-we can handle and manipulate paper to make a collage: fold, rip, cut, crinkle, overlap.
-collage is used to select and cut colours, shapes, textures and images from a range of sources.
-adding salt/sand can create texture on our artwork.

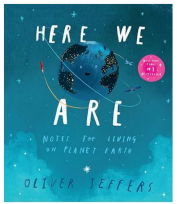
<u>Drawing Media:</u> Using charcoal - focusing on shape and tone.

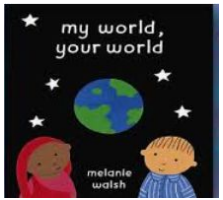


UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD:

RE - 'Celebrating Birthdays' - Celebration
We will learn:
-that **Christians** celebrate the birth of **Jesus** on **Christmas** Day
-that Christians remember how Jesus was born in **Bethlehem** a long time ago and think about this at **Christmas**
-to tell the **Nativity** story as a way of reminding themselves about how **Jesus** was born
-to celebrate by sending cards that remind others about the birth of Jesus, going to special **Christmas services**, singing **hymns** about **Jesus**, having a **crib** displayed at home and giving presents.
-that there are many other ways they may choose to celebrate too.

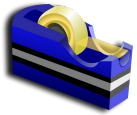
Place - Google Earth
We will learn:
-that we live on planet Earth.
-that there are other countries in our world.
-to appreciate that life for children living in other countries can sometimes be very different to their own.
-that we live in England.





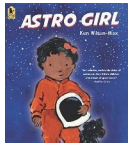
-that a globe is a model of the earth and shows what it looks like from space.
-that a map displayed on a round surface is called a globe.

Making holes:
Paper drill – cutting holes in paper and card.
Joining:
Stapler, Double Sided Tape, PVA glue
Fixing:
Structure - Make a rocket
We will learn how to:
-cut, shape and join using scissors, glue, paper, tape and a stapler.



Cooking and Nutrition: ***Fruit Kebab & Star Biscuit***
We will learn to:
-name a range of common fruit and vegetables.
-cut soft fruits using appropriate utensils: blunt knife
-name and know how to use a rolling pin and cutters.

People/Past and Present - Who do we know that is famous?
Mae Jemison





We will learn:
-Know I have grown and changed.
-Events happened before I was born.
-My birthday is the day I was born.
-Some people are famous.
-Mae Jemison is a famous person who was the first African American woman to travel to Space.

Computing:
The children will learn about:
TECHNOLOGY ALL AROUND US:
*that there is a range of technology in my home, at school, outside and in the wider world
DRAWING:
*technology can be used to create pictures.
*you can change the colour on Paint programs.
*images can be created using different tools.
ROBOTS:
*remote control cars can move left, right, forwards and backwards. *They can go fast or slow.
*remote control cars follow the instructions that I give them, so I can plan their route.
SOUND:
*technology can make music and sounds.
*I can use music from the iwb to sing and dance along to.pm

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD:

Science

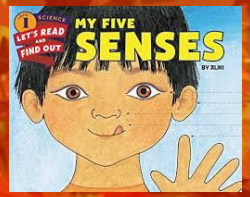
SCIENCE

Senses
We will explore the senses of sight, touch, sound, smell and taste and identify which part of our body we use.

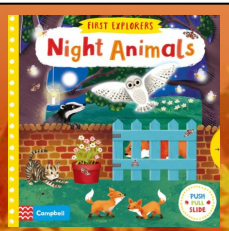
Let's go outside: Autumn
We will explore the natural world around us and experience naturally-occurring changes.

What's changed?
We will practically explore simple changes, observing and discussing what we see.

Day and Night
We will build on the idea of day and night. We will explore shadows and identify animals that are *nocturnal*.









Physical Development:

PE

Dance (Word Moves)
In this unit, children will focus on a key word each lesson and experiment with different ways of moving using these words. Children will learn through this unit to negotiate space. They will begin to create dances on their own and in pairs.

Fitness & Fun
In this unit, children will move safely around others, build strength and balance developing a strong core. During games, the children will practice big movements like running, jumping and skipping to build fitness and agility.

Funky fingers & Dough gym - We will continue to strengthen our fingers.

Body Movement - We will continue to strengthen our core muscles.



Home Learning - Reading

Reading Squad Book
Goes home - Thursday
Return to school - Monday
*__Please initial or write a comment__ for us to celebrate your child in school.

Tricky words - we will be sending home some words to learn to read and a 'help' sheet on why it is tricky!

Sound cards - your child will bring home some new sounds to learn.

Fridays:
Change their sharing Book from the class book corner



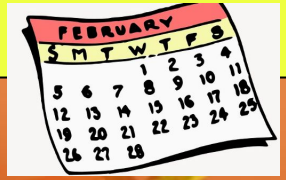


Dates for your Diary:

*__Parent live phonic lesson__ - *Sign up and join us for one of our **phonic lessons.** 9.05am till 9.30am Please wait by year R gate.

Choose a date from the following: Monday 23rd Nov, Tuesday 24th Nov, Thursday 26th Nov, Friday 27th Nov 2025

Sign up sheet will go up soon at pick up/drop off or email office your preferred day and Mrs Jones in the office can add it to sheet.



__Wow Moments__

Please look out for a booklet in your child's bookbag. Please write up any WOW moments and we will celebrate them in school!!!

__What's new?__

STORYTIME on Monday 30th November 2026
Please join us!

You are welcome to come into the classroom on **Monday afternoon** at **2.50pm to 3.10pm** to share a story/read their reading book.

This will involve finding a quiet(ish) corner and reading to your child.

We would ask you to wait outside from 3.10pm while we get the children ready to go home.

We completely understand that this may not be possible for you if you are working or have other commitments, but it would be lovely to see as many parents as possible. Grandparents are also most welcome.

We would love to see you!

