Ash Class Learning Overview – Autumn 2 2026

Key Texts

Our School Values & RE

Diwali

Hannukah

Christmas

In the Moment

These themes may be adapted at various points to allow for children's interests to flow through the provision

Our Topic

Sparkle and Shine

This topic teaches children about the celebrations that take place during the autumn and winter seasons and focus on the significance and symbolism of light at this time of year.

Vocabulary

Weather, leaves, change, celebration, festival, sparkler, Catherine wheel, rocket, Hindu, diya, rangoli, tradition, pattern, candle, family
day, sun, Earth, planet, universe, sky, crescent, full moon, moonlight, astronaut
Jewish, menorah, candle, light, family, synagogue
Nativity, star, angel, stable, manger, shepherd, king, present, stocking, wreath, tinsel, decoration,

Enrichment

Diwali

Bonfire night

Remembrance Day

Children in Need

Nativity Performance

Christmas

Home Learning

Go on a short walk after dark or go into the garden. Take a torch to light the way. Discuss how things look different in the dark.

Experience fireworks at a safe, organised firework event or with family.

Discuss and practice any songs or lines for the Christmas productions.

Prime Areas of Learning

Communication and Language

We will: maintain attention using active listening skills and follow simple instructions well.
We will respond to a peer's request
We will learn and use new words from familiar stories and begin to answer 'How' questions

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will learn: to express their feelings and consider the feelings of others show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge. We will continue to see ourselves as valuable individuals and to build constructive and respectful relationships.

My Happy Mind - Celebrate – Character Strengths
Children learn that we all have different character strengths. Children think about what makes them unique. They will recognise that we all have different characters and this is something to celebrate!

Physical Development

We will learn: to experiment with tools to change materials. We will develop a pincer grip.

We will explore and engage in dance (movement & expression)

Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy

In reading we will learn: to discuss and re-enact familiar stories through actions and role play. We will be reciting rhymes and songs such as '1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive' and 'Zoom, zoom, zoom'
We will read words consistent with their phonic knowledge including tricky words.

In writing we will learn: The children will attempt to use letters to represent words. They will write their name will the correct letter formation.

Mathematics

We will learn: all about representing, comparing and the composition of 1, 2, 3. We will be looking for circles and triangles in the environment and comparing them. We will be using positional language.
We will be representing, comparing and the composition of numbers to 5.
We will be looking for shapes with 4 sides in the environment.

Understanding The World

We will learn: Continue to develop positive attitudes about differences, focusing on traditions of Diwali and where there originated from. We will learn and recall the historic story of Christmas.
We will talk about some of the things that they have observed using simple scientific vocabulary – light and dark and explore differences between materials e.g. to talk, experience and sort things that are shiny

Expressive Arts and Design

We will learn: Joining different resources to create pictures e.g using shiny materials. We will create our own Christmas cards.
We will learn: to listen to a variety of music, rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound and sharing their opinions.
We will learn and sing songs and rhymes as part of a larger group for the Nativity performance.