Personal Social and Emotional Development: Children will continue to develop their awareness of routines and of behavioural expectations in school. Including our school 'Golden Rules'. We will start to think about good choices and bad choices and how we can resolve conflicts appropriately with others. The children will have the opportunity to develop their self confidence by performing to others on our class stage in the role play area.

Talk to your child about their school day, what two things went well today? What could they try to do better tomorrow? Physical Development: In PE children will be developing their ability to move skilfully and negotiate spaces successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles and learning to work as part of a team. They will also develop skills in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking objects. Outdoors we will also have opportunities to build with large equipment, balance on and climb over obstacles, jump and land appropriately and to ride bikes. At the same time in class children will be learning to use small tools and equipment with skill. In our weekly 'Dancing Doodle's session they will be encouraged to copy big and small movements to form recognisable letters and numerals. Practice finger gym activities at home e.g. threading beads, picking up and moving small items s with tongs or pegs.

Communication Language and Literacy: We will be developing our listening skills, including listening to 2-step and more complex instructions, as well as sharing texts and asking and answering questions about them. The role-play area in the class will be used to support imagination and recreate roles in play situations including a new 'stage' area in class this term for children to dress up, sing and perform to each other. Children will be encouraged to extend their vocabulary through class discussions.

- ★ Give your child 2-part instructions to follow e. g, 'can you clap your hands then stand on one foot?'
- ★ Ask your child who, what, where, when, why and how questions about stories you are reading together.

Please remember to:

- ★ Continue to make sure your child brings a named book bag and water bottle daily and always has a named PE kit in school.
- ★ Practise reading at home. Reading books will be changed every **Monday** (and usually another day later in the week).
- ★ Please practice the letter sounds and key words sent home for phonics homework on Wednesdays. Thank you

Reception Newsletter
Autumn 2
Mrs Wilkinson
&
Mrs Blythe

Topic: Light & Sound

Expressive Art and Design:

We will be continuing to learn new action rhymes and songs including songs for the school Christmas production. The children will also have opportunities to sing, use instruments and create their own performances on our class 'stage'. They will continue to have opportunities to construct, collage, paint, model and mark make including Christmas related crafts. What is your child's favourite pop song? Let us know. Can they sing or dance to it at school?

Literacy:

In Phonics sessions this half term we will be learning to recognise more letter sounds and to blend and segment with these to read and spell simple words. In Literacy sessions the children will be encouraged to listen to and discuss a range of stories related to night and day, light and sound including: 'Whatever Next?' 'Peace at Last' by Jill Murphy, and 'Night Monkey, Day Monkey' by Julia Donaldson, and we will compare these with the traditional tale of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We will also read and discuss the non-fiction texts: 'Oscar and The Moth: A book about Light and Dark' by Geoff Waring and 'Find out about Light and Sound' by David Palmer. We will continue to encourage the children's emergent writing and to support them daily to write their names with correct letter formation plus to start writing simple words.

★ Encourage your child to read regularly with you and to read and write the letter sounds sent home each week.

Maths:

During numeracy sessions we will be practising counting forwards and backwards to 20. We will be identifying, ordering and writing numerals, plus counting the correct corresponding number of objects. Children will develop their ability to say what would be one more or one less than a given number and find the total number of objects in two groups by counting them. They will begin to understand and use the language of addition. Children will also consolidate their use of mathematical language to name and describe 2D shapes and start to name some 3D shapes. We will continue to order items by length, height, and weight and start to do this by capacity.

- ★ Continue to practise counting objects up to 10 and then 20. Then ask what number is one more?
- **★** Encourage your child to spot numerals to 20 in the environment.
- ★ Point out some 3D shapes in the environment e.g. spheres and cubes.

Understanding the World:

The children will be exploring light and sound including using shadow puppets with torches and sound-making with echo microphones and musical instruments. We will also be talking about similarities and differences between their own customs and routines and those of children from another community using the Hindu story about Diwali 'Lots of Lights' by Kavita Sahai. We will continue to look at the seasons and how it is turning from Autumn to Winter using the book 'The Secrets of Winter' by Carron Brown. The children will have opportunities to use different types of technology including a light box, torches, tablets and computers,

- ★ Encourage your child to talk about light, dark, and shadows, bright, shiny or dull, noisy or quiet objects.
- ★ Children are always welcome to bring anything special they find in the environment into school to share on the class's 'investigation' table.

RE:

During our RE lessons this half term we will be focusing initially on Festivals of Light including Diwali and Chanukah (see links to Understanding the World) leading on thinking about how we celebrate our Birthdays and then learning about the **Christmas Story** of Jesus' birth.