Elephants Class Curriculum Overview Autumn 2026

Our topic this half term is Let's Celebrate!



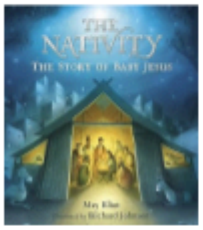
Books we will be reading this half term













These books plus many more. We love to read at St John's.

Phonics and Writing

We follow the Unlocking Letters and Sounds scheme.

We will learn

- To show awareness of rhyming pairs.
- To write our name.
- We will be writing simple words/ captions and include all the sounds that we can hear.
- We will practise writing taught letter sounds following our handwriting scheme Kinetic letters.
- We will be revisiting all phase 2 sounds and common exception words.
- We will be learning the phase 3 sounds
- j, v, w, x, y, z, qu, sh, th, ch, ng and ai.

Knowledge and understanding of the world

We will be learning about different celebrations including Bonfire Night, birthdays, Weddings, Hanukkah, Diwali and Christmas.

We will have discussions about past and present and learning about events such as Remembrance Day.

We will understand that some places are special to members of their community.

Maths

We will be following the White Rose scheme.

We will be

- Focusing on the composition of
- numbers to 5.
- Learning about 2D shapes.
- Comparing sets.
- Matching numerals to quantities to
- 10.
- Verbally counting to 20 and beyond.
- Beginning to form our numbers correctly.

Physical Development



We will Learn

- Learning to hold our pencil's
- correctly.
- Use a range of tools with
- increasing control, including, pencil,
- scissors, paint brush and cutlery.
- Move safely within a space and
- around obstacles.
- Be increasingly independent when getting dressed and undressed.

Our P.E days are **Wednesday and Friday.**

Expressive Arts and Design

We will

- Be exploring line drawings. We will use pastels to create our own firework pictures.
- Bake cakes for Elmer's birthday party.
- Create celebration cards and hats.
- Create our own Rangoli patterns.
- Continue developing our drawing skills through Drawing Club.
- Create our own puppets.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will learn to

- Express their feelings and consider the
- feelings of others.
- Build constructive and respectful
- relationships.
  Be confident to try new activities and
- show independence.
- Manage own needs including basic hygiene.



Communication and Language

We will learn

- To engage and participate in discussion, using new vocabulary through the day.
- To articulate ideas and thoughts in well-formed
- sentences.
- To start a conversation and continue it for many turns.
- Songs for the Christmas Nativity.



Religious Education

Our value for this half term is **Trust.**

We will be learning:

- We will be reading and performing the Christmas nativity plays and know that Christians celebrates when Jesus was born.
- We will learn that the Diwali Festival is a celebration of hope and light.
- We will be learning about Hanukkah.

The children will attend church every Thursday and take part in daily worship.