



09.10.26

Our topic this week is '**Autumn**'. This week the children have been exploring the season of Autumn. We have been investigating seasonal changes, collecting and examining leaves, conkers, and other natural treasures, and learning new vocabulary linked to Autumn.

Books we have read this week:

- The Leaf Thief
- The Gruffalo
- Fletcher and The Falling Leaves
- Fox's Favourite Autumn
- The Squirrels Who Squabbled
- Squirrels Autumn Search
- When Autumn Comes

Activities/provision this week:

- **Autumn playdough** - The children made red playdough and used cutters to make leaf shapes. We talked about the different coloured leaves you might see during the autumn season and their details.
- **Autumn Home corner/cafe** - This week we enhanced the home corner with Autumn materials. For example, hot drink cups, leaves and pinecones. The children enjoyed making hot drinks such as, hot chocolates, teas and coffees.
- **Autumn leaf hunt** - We read 'The Leaf Thief' at circle time, talking about autumn leaves and their features. We went on an autumn leaf hunt

around the school, and the children loved collecting different coloured/size leaves.

- **Autumn tree group craft** - We found some sticks and taped them onto large pieces of paper to make a 'tree'. The children took it in turns to finger paint around the tree using red/yellow/orange/green paints.
- **Leaf printing** - We used the leaves we collected for a painting activity. The children painted onto leaves of their choice and printed them onto paper.
- **Leaf rubbing** - The children enjoyed exploring textures and patterns through a leaf rubbing activity. They placed leaves under paper and used crayons to reveal the shapes, veins and details of the leaves.
- **Gruffalo tuff tray** - We read 'The Gruffalo' at circle time, and the children used Gruffalo story stones to act out/sequence the story.
- **Leaf decorations** - The children coloured and decorated individual leaves to hang up on our decorative tree.
- **Autumn drinks messy tray** - The children played with real tea bags, water, jugs, teapots, takeaway cups and spoons. They made their own 'hot drinks' using their gross/fine motor skills.

Phonics: Instrumental sounds

This term our phonics focus is instrumental sounds! We will be experimenting playing with a variety of instruments. We will practice playing the instruments loud, quiet, fast, slow etc.

Maths: Patterns

This week in maths, the children explored and created AB repeating patterns using a variety of objects and natural autumn resources. They carefully identified what came next in a pattern and practised making their own patterns using items such as leaves, conkers and coloured objects.

Nursery rhymes:

This term we will be learning the nursery rhymes:

- Old MacDonald had a farm
- Twinkle Twinkle little star
- Baa, Baa, Black Sheep
- Dingle Dangle Scarecrow
- See the sleeping bunnies

- Hickory Dickory dock
- Wind the bobbin up
- If you're happy and you know it
- The wheels on the bus
- I'm a little tea pot
- Five little monkeys

Next week the topic will continue to be: **Autumn**

Important information

- **We are collecting natural autumn treasures for our learning activities**
If you are out on autumn walks, please help your child collect and bring in items such as leaves, conkers, acorns, pinecones, twigs or other safe natural materials. These resources will be used in our creative, maths and sensory activities as we explore the season together.
- Please can children bring in any books from home about autumn.
- Please can parents/carers send in family photographs for our family tree.
- Send in any WOW moments for the children or photos of experiences to pre-school@bishopstawton-primary.org.
- **School Open Afternoon Stay and Play - Thursday 19th November - 1.30pm-2.30pm**
We would like to invite you to our Open Afternoon and Stay and Play session. Throughout the afternoon there will be an opportunity to have a tour of our school and meet children, staff, parents, governors and PTFA members. Families are welcome to spend time playing and exploring in our Early Years Gardens and classrooms. Please see poster below.



'Bishops Tawton School
is a happy and exciting
place to learn'
Ofsted March 2022

Open Afternoon Stay & Play

Thursday 19th November 2026 1:30-2:30

Are you looking for a Pre-School or Reception place?

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Find out more... Have a look at our blog on the school website:
www.bishopstawton-primary.devon.sch.uk