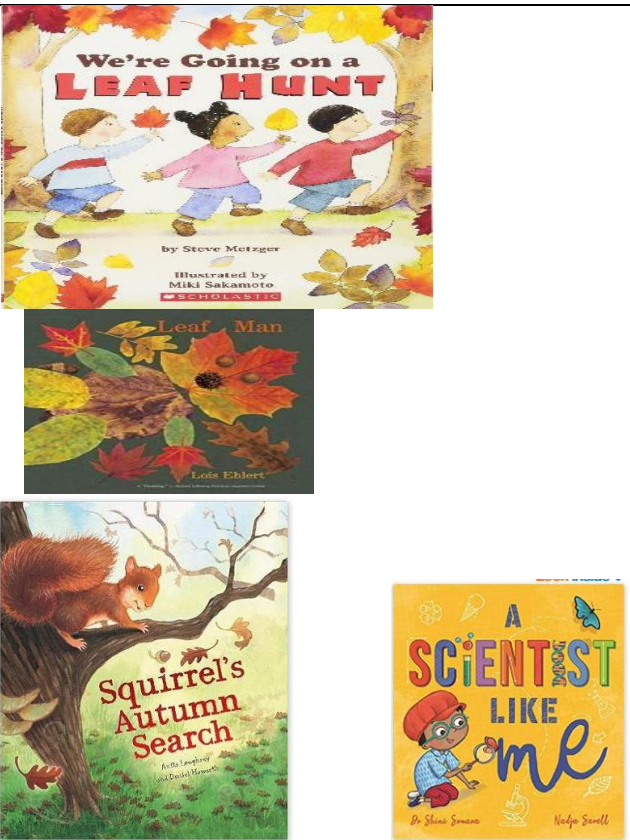


St Paul's Catholic Primary School
Reception Medium Term Planning Unit 2

Subject Domain	Science – seasons - Autumn
Key Concept to be developed over one whole year.	Over one year, the natural world around us changes and we have four different seasons. This is due to the movement of the tilted earth around the sun.
Changes related to autumn	Identifying and enjoying the seasonal changes that autumn brings.
Topic Title	All about Autumn
Educational Programme	Understanding the World
ELG	The Natural World
Time allocation	4 weeks
What to say to encourage the children to be little weather scientists	The seasons are different times of the year when the weather and nature change in different ways! There are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. In the autumn, the weather starts to get cooler and the leaves on deciduous trees turn different colours such as red, yellow, orange and brown. Weather scientists, also known as meteorologists, study the weather. They use special tools and equipment to measure things like how warm it is and how wet or windy it is. They also look at things like clouds and wind to see what kind of weather is coming. With all of this information, they can make predictions about what the weather will be like in the future. They help us know if it's going to be sunny, rainy, or snowy outside, so we can be prepared and stay safe! Information for adults: The Earth orbits, or travels around, the sun one time in a whole year. That means it takes the Earth 365 days to go all the way around the sun. The Earth spins around, or rotates, as it orbits the sun. This spinning is what makes day and night.

	The Earth's orbit and spin also help create the different seasons. The Earth is tilted, or slanted, on its axis. This means that sometimes the Northern Hemisphere, where we live, is tilted towards the sun, and sometimes it's tilted away from the sun. When it's tilted towards the sun, it's summer in the Northern Hemisphere, and when it's tilted away from the sun, it's winter. In between summer and winter, there are two other seasons: spring and autumn. These happen when the Earth is not tilted towards or away from the sun, but is in between. That's why it's usually warm in the spring and fall, but not as warm as in the summer.
Key Vocabulary and questions	Nouns: the earth, the sun, seasons, autumn, orbit, movement around the sun, tilting towards the sun, weather, changes, natural world, trees, leaves, animals, hedgehogs, hibernation, acorn, conker, squirrel, nuts, evergreen, deciduous Verbs: to change, to dry up, to shed leaves, to get colder, to get darker, to get shorter daylight, Adjectives: deciduous, evergreen, red, yellow, orange, brown, scrunchy, brown, dry, crunchy, muddy, windy, cold, rain, dark, cloudy How can we tell that the season has changed? How can we tell that the earth is moving in a different position around the sun?

Story titles/Literacy Books Five-a-Day books One book per week to be read 5 times per day	
Objective What do you want the children to know, understand and be able to do?	Over the whole year: To know that there are four seasons in a year: spring, summer, autumn, winter. To know that a year (365 days) is the length of time that it takes the earth to travel (orbit) around the sun. To know that the planet that we live on is the earth. To know that the earth is tilted. To know that as the earth moves around the sun, the weather here on earth changes... because the earth is tilted. This is how we get the seasons. For autumn: To recognise some of the changes in the natural world due to the seasonal changes of autumn. What are the key features of Autumn? Reduced time of natural daylight, meaning that the days are

	shorter than the nights. (More darkness than light). Leaves on the trees will turn yellow, orange, red and brown during autumn. As Winter approaches, you'll notice that the leaves on trees begin to fall. Autumn is the season of crops and harvest. For farmers, this is one of the most important times of the year. In Autumn, we will also see the migration of birds. This means that birds who wouldn't survive living in cooler climates migrate to a warmer location for the Winter months. Birds usually choose Autumn to migrate, so typically you can expect to see large flocks of birds such as ducks or geese flying in the sky. Autumn is also a crucial time for some animals, as this is the beginning of the hibernation season. During this time, animals such as hedgehogs and squirrels will begin to gather food and make nests to keep them safe and fed during the cooler climates.
Activities for children to undertake related to Autumn	Complete daily class weather record Walk around school, local park to look for signs of autumn. Check them off list. Draw signs of Autumn Collect, sort and label different leaves, acorns, nuts, etc Carve pumpkins Celebrate harvest time / festivals Learn about hibernation
Enrichment	Activities related to Harvest and Halloween Visit to a local park or gardens to observe signs of Autumn Possible Talk or visit by local Hedgehog sanctuary

Continuous Provision /Enhancements/ Role Play	Autumn Café Witches Kitchen (Halloween) Sorting Autumn Items and using them for Maths Creating a leafman
Expressive Arts and Design	Leaf prints. Leaf rubbings Leaf collage Pinecone painting and printing Apple and vegetable printing