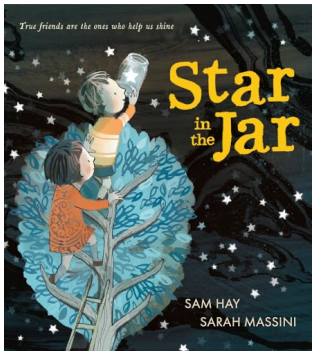
Reception Half-Term Knowledge Organiser

Autumn 2 - Star in the Jar

Core Text	Star in the Jar
Big Question	What makes our world special?
School Value	Respect
Jigsaw Theme	Celebrating Difference
RE	What is interesting about the Christmas story?
Artist	Yayoi Kusama
Season	Late Autumn/Winter



Key Vocabulary

star	sparkle	shadow	reflection
celebration	tradition	light	dark
glow	pattern	festival	wonder

Key Questions

What makes our world special?
How do people celebrate?
What happens when it gets dark?
How are families and celebrations similar and different?
What can we notice about light and shadows?

What We Are Learning

Communication & Language	Questioning, describing, explaining, using new vocabulary and sharing ideas in discussion.
PSED	Celebrating difference, belonging, respecting differences and talking about family traditions. Jigsaw: Celebrating Difference.
Physical Development	Developing fine motor precision, threading, cutting skills, hand-eye coordination, pencil grip and control.
Literacy	Ready Steady Write links: character descriptions, simple captions, posters and oral composition.
Phonics	Secure most Set 1 sounds. Blend simple CVC words. Read simple captions and phrases. Begin to write simple words using Fred Fingers.
Mathematics	White Rose: It's Me 1,2,3; Circles & Triangles; Positional Language; Numbers to 5.
Understanding the World	Science: Light and dark; shadows. History: Celebrations now and in the past, Old and new sources of light; family traditions. Geography: Our community and celebrations around the world. Explore the Christian story of Christmas and compare Christmas and Diwali traditions.
Artist	Create dot paintings inspired by Dots Obsession by Yayoi Kusama.
Mediums	Printing, paint, dot art, chalk and mixed media
Creative Experiences	Rockets, star art, pattern work, music and performance, Space role play
Celebrations	**Experiences**
Bonfire Night Remembrance Day Diwali Christmas	Light and dark investigations Shadow play Making lanterns and cards Walk to the post box **Forest School** - Building

HOME LINKS	**Prior Nursery Knowledge**	**Year 1 Links**
Talk about family celebrations. Look for light sources at home. Read a bedtime story together. Make repeating patterns using household objects.	Children may have: Noticed seasonal changes. Explored light, dark and shadows through play.	History: Celebrations and traditions over time. Science: Everyday materials, light and dark. RE: Diwali and Christmas traditions. Art & DT: Exploring colour, pattern and structures. PSHE: Celebrating Differences.

I CAN...	**Key Knowledge**
Talk about how people celebrate. Use words to describe light and dark. Make and continue a pattern. Retell a story using new vocabulary. Show respect for different traditions.	Light helps us to see. Darkness occurs when there is no light. People celebrate different festivals and traditions. Families may celebrate in different ways. Patterns can be found in nature and art.

