Carnivals and Festivals
4 Seasons ARP Medium term planning for Autumn 1b 2026

Pathway:	Pre-formal Engagement

Cognition, Learning and Engagement

- Daily sensory stories.
- Daily Attention Autism session.
- Tuff tray linked to carnivals and festivals.
- Number songs with props relating to the topic.
- 1:1 correspondence.
- Recognising 'big and small' and understanding properties of shape.
- Daily 'I see' book, using colourful semantics.
- Phonics, developing awareness of initial sounds.

Communication and Interaction

- Following a one-part instruction.
- Use symbols or simple words to make requests using a simple AAC board.
- Using a choice board.
- Using communication boards to understand and use core vocabulary.
- Communicate through singing nursery rhymes.
- Try and find the requested item with minimal support.

Personal and Social Development

- Look at yourself in a mirror.
- Choose regulatory items and resources.
- Listening to/joining in singing songs.
- TACPAC.
- Spend time together in outdoor areas.
- Further developing relationships with adults, through Intensive Interaction.
- With adult support, put resources away.
- Start to tolerate graduated, differing sensory experiences.

My World Around Me

- Cause and effect in our environment.
- Develop an understanding of seasonal changes in the environment.



My Physical World PE/Gross and Fine Motor

- Following actions during songs.
- Messy play mark making.
- Fine motor tasks and puzzles.
- Swing and trampoline.
- Sensory equipment.
- Sensory diet targets
- P.E with a sports coach.

My Independence Self-help/Life Skills/Cooking

- Brushing teeth.
- Making choices during snack time.
- Cooking every week with our Buddies.
- Washing hands and increased awareness of toileting.
- Putting coats away.

My Creativity Music/Art/Drama

- Explore using different tools in the style of an artist.
- Vocalising in different ways.
- Experimenting with instruments.
- Nursery Rhymes and songs
- Using colour to create carnival and festival art.
- Making carnival masks and instruments.

Enhanced Curriculum Trips/Visits/Experiences

- Park Trip.
- Cooking with buddies.
- Christmas celebrations.

Songs and texts we are using during this Topic

Title	Link	Notes
Carnival Queen	Donette Williams-Harry	As a sensory story
Adapted text for Carnivals		As a sensory story
Adapted text for Festivals		As a sensory story

Pathway	Semi-formal Explorer

Cognition and Learning Early Development	Communication and Interaction	Personal and Social Development
• Daily sensory stories. • Daily Attention Autism session. • Tuff tray and 1:1 tasks linked to our carnivals and festivals. • Number songs. • 1:1 correspondence. • Early concepts of addition. • Daily 'I see' book, using colourful semantics. • Phonics, developing awareness of initial sounds.	• Requesting using a symbol. • Following a one-part instruction • Use symbols or simple words to make requests using a simple AAC board. • Using a choice board. • Following simple transitions with greater independence - going to the garden/classroom • Communicate through reactions or social expressions if you like or do not like the smell or taste of fruits and vegetables. • Try and find the requested item with verbal prompting.	• Look at yourself in a mirror. • Choose regulatory items and resources. • Listening to/joining in singing songs. • TACPAC. • Spend time together in outdoor areas. • Exploration, using our senses. • Put resources away. • Start to tolerate graduated, differing sensory experiences.
My World Around Me		**My Physical World PE/Gross and Fine Motor**
• Cause and effect in our environment. • Develop an understanding of seasonal changes in the environment.		• Following actions during songs. • Manipulating Play-Doh. • Puzzles. • Fine motor tasks. • Swing and trampoline. • Sensory equipment. • Sensory diet targets • P.E with a sports coach.
My Independence Self-help/Life Skills/Cooking	**My Creativity Music/Art/Drama**	**Enhanced Curriculum Trips/Visits/Experiences**
• Brushing teeth. • Making choices during snack time. • Cooking every week with our Buddies. • Washing hands and increased awareness of toileting. • Putting coats away.	• Explore using different tools in the style of an artist. • Vocalising in different ways. • Experimenting with instruments. • Nursery Rhymes and songs • Using colour to create carnival and festival art. • Making carnival masks and instruments.	• Park Trip. • Cooking with buddies. • Christmas celebrations.

Songs and texts we are using during this Topic

Title	Link/Author	Notes
Carnival Queen	Donette Williams-Harry	As a Sensory Story
Adapted text for Carnivals		As a Sensory Story
Adapted text for Festivals		As a Sensory Story

Pathway	Formal/Semi-formal Challenger

English	Maths	Personal and Social Development
• Reading a range of texts linked carnivals and festivals • Use Colourful Semantics and visual word banks to generate sentences about carnivals and festivals • Use known spellings to write words. • Phase 2, 3 & 4 phonics. • Retell part of a familiar story. • Change part of a story.	• Change from 10p and 20p. • Sequencing numbers form 70 – 100. • Doubling and halving.	• Daily Zones of Regulation check ins. • Turn taking activities. • Attending assemblies and lessons with mainstream classes. • Choosing regulatory items. • Consider how different parts of our body feel. • Consider when we may feel fearful.
My World Around Me Science and Humanities		**My Physical World PE/Gross and Fine Motor**
• What is living, dead and things that have never been alive. • Plants and animals that live in habitats.		• Daily movement breaks. • Fine motor skills sessions. • PE with mainstream classes. • Garden Time. • Yoga. • P.E with a sports coach. • Sensory diet targets
My Independence Life Skills	**My Creativity Music/Art/Drama**	**Enhanced Curriculum Trips/Visits/Experiences**
• Making healthy snacks. • Washing our hands and taking care of our personal hygiene. • Christmas baking. • Class jobs	• Using a range of instruments. • Charanga music scheme. • Using colour to create carnival and festival art. • Making carnival masks and instruments.	• Park Trip. • Cooking with buddies. • Christmas celebrations.

Texts we are using during this Topic

Title	Link/Author	Notes
Carnival Queen	Donette Williams-Harry	
What do you Celebrate?	Whitney Stewart Dean Atta	
The Best Diwali Ever	Sonali Shah	
The Happiest Hanukkah	Ivor Baddiel	