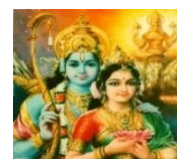


Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 13.11.23

Term 2 topic - Tell me a story Diwali – Rama and Sita



Personal, Social and Emotional Development- In our Jigsaw circle time, we have been talking and thinking about what we can do to be kind to our friends and everyone around the school. This week was anti bullying week, and it was lovely to see so many odd socks around the school. Showing that we are all different and it is something to be celebrated! We have been practising our 'please' and 'thank yous' during snack time and Mrs Howell also has taught us that if we want to speak to an adult, but they are already talking to someone else, that we can hold their hand so that they know we are waiting.

Communication and Language- We have had lots of discussions about the festival Diwali and how this is celebrated in a similar way to how Christians celebrate Christmas and New Year. We have loved looking at and talking about all the lights and colours that are used in this festival. Thank you for participating in the 'tell me about' sticker homework. We had lots of great ideas about how Diwali is celebrated. This week we have also looked at opposites and there has been lots of talk around this. We have learnt lots of new vocabulary.

Physical Development- As the weather is getting cooler, we are ensuring our outside play sessions are very active. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing to go outside each day. We try to go out in all weathers, and this is made much easier for us if the children have their own appropriate outdoor wear in school all week. We will be continuing with 'dough disco' next week, which helps to strengthen our muscles, and this helps us with our writing, drawing and playing. Our 'Squiggle' is helping us to listen, follow instructions and develop our gross motor movements.

Literacy- We are continuing to learn lots of new sounds to help us to begin reading and writing. Everyone now has a green phonics book in their phonics packs. Please practise these sounds at home. We are all getting really speedy at making CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words during our phonics time on our magnetic white boards and we know to use our Fred Fingers to help with this!

Mathematics- We have continued to practise counting in 1s to 20, recognising our numbers to 10, forming our numbers correctly, counting up to 10 and back down again, saying what is one more and one less than a given number, and using our fingers to show amounts. We have been thinking about sets of numbers up to 3 this week, made our own sets and matched quantities to numerals. We used real objects to compare sets, talking about which set had more or fewer or the same amount. We looked at 2D shapes and discussed their properties. We also looked at some different rangoli patterns and had a go at creating some repeating patterns as a class.

Understanding the World- We have loved learning about Diwali and had great fun making our Diva lamps out of salt dough. We enjoyed painting them in bright colourful patterns and adding glitter to our designs! We learnt that the festival of Diwali is the festival of light and colour. We have learnt how Diwali is celebrated and have also enjoyed making and tasting a delicious Diwali smoothie – Mango Lassi! Delicious!

Expressive Arts and Design- We have had lots of different experiences during our Diwali week – re-enacting the story of Rama & Sita using the masks, making diva lights out of salt dough and then decorating them, creating Rangoli patterns and creating our own Mendi patterns. We also love to explore paint freely, model with different textures and colours of playdough, engage ourselves in the small world in the classrooms and build creatively in the construction. This week we have started our Nativity Play practise! It's going to be a good one!

Supporting learning at home

- Have a chat about why we celebrate Diwali, what can the children remember about the story of Rama and Sita?
- Challenge them to put on their coat and do it up all by themselves!
- Can your child read their sound blending book and/or their green phonics book? Remember to write when you have read in your child's blue reading diary. This should be for 5 minutes every day for this time of year.
- Practise number formation using your formation sheet that was sent home.

Notes for next week 20.11.23

- Water bottle, coat and book bag in school every day, please.
- Remember to bring your library book back on Monday so we can change it.
- Remember that your child does not need to come in PE kit on a Wednesday until after Christmas as we are using our PE time to practise our Christmas Play.
- Please can you tell your children not to use the bikes after school. It takes a lot of time to tidy everything up at the end of the day. Thank you.
- The date for our Nativity Play is Tuesday 12th of December at 2pm and Thursday 14th of December 9:30am.

Have a lovely weekend!