

Early Years Foundation Stage Newsletter 12th November 2021

Nursery

This week in Donaldson class the children started to learn about Diwali – the Festival of Lights, which is traditionally celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains and is probably the most well-known of the Hindu festivals. We read the story of *Rama and Sita* – the children had great fun exploring the small world scene setter of the story, acting out the story and building bridges like the monkeys did in the story.

We also started to learn about how Hindus' prepare for and celebrate the festival, created our own Diya lamps and firework pictures.

In maths, we have started to explore pattern and created our own whole class Rangoli pattern. In phonics, we have continued to focus on tuning into instrumental sounds.

The children participated in the two-minute silence for Remembrance Day – we were so impressed with how still and quiet they were.

The children are continuing to work on name recognition and are enjoying daily scarf dancing to help build the muscles in their upper bodies in preparation for writing. As so many children have been away this week due to ill health, we will be continuing our learning on Diwali next week. Please remember we have school photos on Monday 15th November – it would be great if the children could wear school uniform.



Reception

We have had an amazing week learning all about fireworks.

Monday the children were so excited to share their weekend news. We heard about how so many of them went to watch the fireworks and how they had hotdogs and burgers!

During maths this week we have been learning all about time. We spoke about all the different ways we tell time, including the days of the week, months of the year and times through the day. We learnt that there are 60 seconds in one minute.

We are still learning all about *The Very Busy Spider*, but this week we changed it to our own Jeffers version. We are now learning all about *The Very Busy Caterpillar*. We even changed the end of the story, so the caterpillar turns into a beautiful butterfly.

We have also had some wonderful activities to engage with. This week we have been practising writing our sounds in firework glitter. We made chocolate playdough and we even made huge fireworks using our large brooms and powder paint outside.

Just a reminder, Jeffers class will be receiving homework on Monday along with a reading book, linked to the phonic sounds they know. Please make sure you are reading and completing the homework as it will support your children at school! Thank you ☺

