

Nursery

This week in Donaldson class we have continued our learning about Diwali.

At the beginning of the week, we read the story *Lighting a Lamp* by Jonny Zucker and Jan Barger Cohen. After reading we discussed how the family prepared for Diwali celebrations and all the things we have created so far linked to Diwali. We made Coconut Barfi (which was featured in the story and is an Indian sweet). The children enjoyed measuring and mixing the ingredients and observing and feeling the changes to the texture as each ingredient was added.

The children have enjoyed listening to alternative versions of the story of *Rama and Sita* and discussing the differences between each one.

In maths, we have continued to explore pattern and have created simple patterns using blocks, paint, musical instruments, and chalk on the playground. We have also been focussing on counting accurately. For *Odd Sock Day* we focussed on kindness – the children had some great ideas on what it means to be kind and how being kind makes people feel.



Reception

This week we have learnt all about the Hindu festival 'Diwali'.

Our creative activity this week was to make Diya lamps. The children loved exploring the texture of the clay and then modelling it into their Diya lamp. They also got the opportunity to make 'Coconut Barfi' a traditional Hindu sweet. The children loved rolling the coconut and condensed milk to form Coconut Barfi truffles.

During literacy we adapted the story of 'The Very Busy Spider' to 'The Very Busy Caterpillar'. We have enjoyed telling the story using actions and we have even attempted to write the story as a class.

We have now covered all of phase 2 phonic sounds and we are now moving onto phase 3. The children have received their reading book to support them with their development and it would be great if you could practice this every day for at least 10 minutes.

That is not all! We have had so much fun this week. We have been creating Rangoli patterns in the garden. We have been using our fine and gross motor skills to create bridges to save the Princess Sita from the evil demon Ravana and we have been using our writing skills to write Diwali cards. Such a fun packed week.

Just a reminder: Forest school will be taking place on Thursday 23rd November 2021. Please make sure your children are wearing the appropriate clothing as they will get messy 😊

