

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week our learning will be based around Diwali, linking to our half termly topic of 'Festivals & Celebrations'. We will also spend some time focusing on anti-bullying week. We will continue rehearsing for our Christmas Nativity ahead of performances on Monday 4th December (2:15pm) and Tuesday 5th December (9:15am).

Diwali: We have been lucky enough to have a few parents volunteer to come into school and speak with the children about Diwali. This has been a great learning experience for the children – thank you! To continue our learning, the children will be given the opportunity to make Diya Lamps and explore with rangoli patterns.

Anti-bullying Week: The theme this year is 'make a noise about bullying'. We will encourage children to think of different ways they can vocalise their feelings and concerns if they think they or someone else is being bullied.

Please remember that the children can wear odd socks on Monday 13th to kickstart the week; emphasising that we are all unique, which is what makes us special.

Christmas Nativity: Three weeks to go! Rehearsals are in full swing, but we need your help... If your child has a line to learn for the performance, please practise this with them at home. We are rehearsing as much as we can in school, but ultimately our rehearsals are far more effective if the children know what they need to say and when.

Phonics: We will be teaching the sounds /sh/th/ng/nk/, focusing on one sound per day, as well as recapping the sounds we already know. Please ensure you are reading at home every day, even if it is only a page, and signing the reading record every time your child reads to you.

Maths: This week, the children will explore the composition of numbers by focusing on the 'parts' and the 'whole'. They will begin to understand that whole things are often made up of smaller parts.

RESOURCE REQUESTS!

Diya Lamps – we would be grateful for any donations of salt and flour please! We use this throughout the year too (e.g. for making playdough), so the more the better.

Christmas Crafts – for our Christmas Craft morning, we will require some white socks (all to be revealed in due course). We are kindly asking for donations of new white socks; we will need 30 per class but with some spares in case any errors are made! The socks need to be **longer** than ankle/trainer socks. Thank you in advance.

At home you could:

- Explore with rangoli patterns e.g. using items found in nature, beads, coloured rice etc.
- Practise splitting a 'whole' into 'parts' e.g. build a tower of 5 blocks; how many ways can you split it into two parts?
- Play a HRSW treasure hunt at home – write them on post-it notes and hide them around the house; how many can your child find and read in 5 minutes?

Diary Dates:-

W/C Monday 13th November – Anti-bullying Week: children can wear odd socks today to kick start the week

Friday 17th November – Children in Need mufti day: The theme for this year is Spotacular so we encourage children to come in spotty clothing or to decorate their hair with spots! Please donate by dropping money into buckets in the playground.

Friday 17th November – 2.15pm: Safeguarding session with Miss Morris for parent volunteers.

Tuesday 21st November – 9.10am – 10.00am: Christmas Craft morning. Parents are invited into their child's class to help them with their Christmas craft. Please note this will be limited to one parent per child and no younger siblings.

Thank you

Reception Team