

# Reception Newsletter

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Friday 20th October 2017



HAPPY  
Diwali



This week in Reception we have been learning all about the Hindu festival of light, Diwali. The children watched a short video about a little girl called Jessica and enjoyed seeing how she and her family prepared for and celebrated this well known Hindu festival. We all listened to story of Rama and Sita and the children were fascinated to hear about the ten headed demon, Ravana whom captured and imprisoned the beautiful princess Sita. (They were also very relieved to find out that the flying monkey God, Hanuman saved the day!)



Related to Diwali, children have also made and decorated Rangoli patterns using coloured rice and have used clay to make diva lamps. To top off the week, both Reception classes got together for a Diwali party where they tried lots of different Indian foods including popadoms,



onion bhajis and vegetable samosas 😊



This week's homework is the enclosed paper bag ('Autumn treasure'). If you get the chance, please help your child to collect colourful leaves, pine cones, conkers, acorns or anything else related to Autumn. We are hoping to use children's findings to explore and investigate the first week back after half term.

Your child has also brought home a couple of high frequency words for them to learn to read. Please cut out the words to make little flash cards as we find that if the words are just left in a strip, the children often memorise the list and cannot read the words when they see them on their own. As your child progresses with their words, they will be replaced with new words and also a reading book. Words will be sent home each Friday and can should be kept at home (they do not need to be returned to school).



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Your child has also brought home a couple of reading books. The first book is a picture book. Please encourage your child to look carefully at the illustrations and make up their own words. We use these books in school to help develop language and to get the children used to talking about what is happening in the stories. The second book contains a few words and will increase with difficulty as your child gains confidence. Please take time to read the books with your child and write a comment in their reading recorded.



Just a reminder that today is our final day in school before half term. School will reopen on Monday 30th October. We hope you all enjoy your week off 😊