

Dear Parents / Carers,

Friday 5th November 2021

Well done Mrs Jones' class! They received biscuits on more than one occasion this week for each day their class achieved **100% attendance**. Miss Melling is keeping everything crossed that her class will receive biscuits next week and can enjoy them as a treat at snack time. But she needs **all** of the children in her class to be in.

We have continued to focus on letters sounds in phonics and focusing on the initial letter sound in words. We have been playing 'silly soup' and I spy. Sorting pictures into the correct letter sound tins also supports this learning.

Our Maths activities have strongly focused on 'subitising'. Subitising is the ability to recognise a small groups of objects without having to count them. It helps children with pattern recognition and encourages them not to over rely on counting. We have used familiar patterns such as dots on a dice to support this and showing a number on our fingers 'all at once' without counting them. This then links to next week's learning of cardinal value.

On Thursday, we learnt that people who follow the Hindu religion were celebrating Diwali. We watched a short video clip of a brother and sister sharing how they celebrate Diwali with their families. We had a discussion about different religious celebrations and festivals and if they are celebrated in a similar way to Diwali. We enjoyed the story of Rama and Sita, particularly the part when Rama's 'army of monkeys' helped save Sita. Learning about other cultures helps children understand that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in similar and different ways.

A reminder about school uniform- children are to wear **black** school shoes, preferably with Velcro straps – this supports their independence. If children can tie their own laces, then they can wear school shoes with laces as they are able to tie them, themselves. If your child brings a drinking bottle to school, we ask that it is for water only, this is to promote being healthy.

Diary Dates

Thursday 11th November – individual and sibling photographs.

Enjoy the weekend