

Peek at the Week

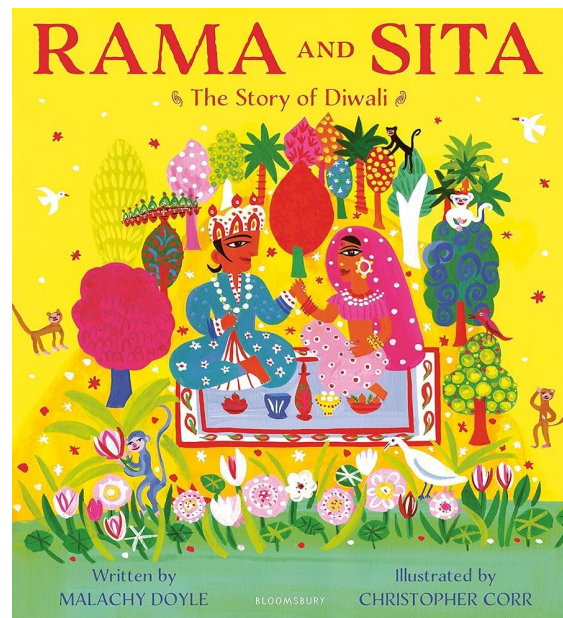
Celebrating Diwali



This week has been incredibly exciting, as we have been learning all about Diwali.

We read the story 'Rama and Sita – The Story of Diwali' by Malachy Doyle. This story is all about Prince Rama, his wife Sita, and a demon called Ravana. The children were amazed when they found out that Ravana had 10 heads! He kidnapped Sita, but Prince Rama defeated him with the help of the monkey king, Hanuman, and a magical arrow.

We have also been learning facts about Diwali such as who celebrates Diwali, why Hindus celebrate Diwali, and how Hindus celebrate Diwali.



What can you remember about Diwali?

Who celebrates Diwali?

Diwali is a five-day-long festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists. It takes place every autumn between October and November, with the date changing every year.

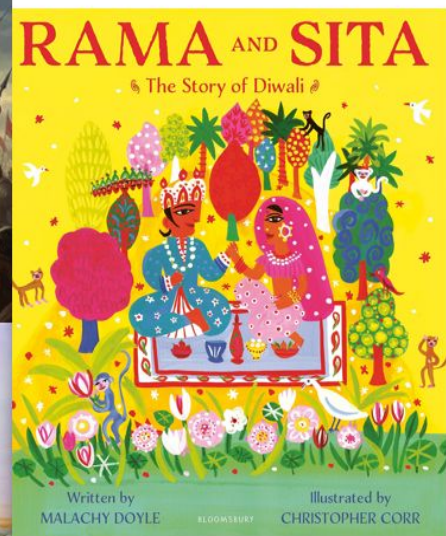


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Why do they celebrate Diwali?

For the Hindus, the holiday symbolises the return of Prince Rama with his wife, Sita, and brother, Lakshman, from a 14-year-long exile and a war in which Prince Rama stood victorious. People lit lamps along the way to light their path in the darkness.



How is Diwali celebrated?

Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops and public places are decorated with small oil lamps called 'diyas'.

Lamps are lit and windows and doors are left open to help **Lakshmi** find her way into people's homes.



Forest School



The children will have Forest School sessions on a Thursday morning with Riad. The classes will go every other week. We are looking for parents who would be available to support us with these sessions either weekly or on a rota basis. If you think you can help please contact your class teacher (see email addresses below).

Forest School timetable:

November

6th - Silver

13th - Bronze

20th - Silver

27th - Bronze

December

4th - Silver

11th - Bronze

18th - Silver

Thank you to all the parents who have helped at Forest School. The children are loving having parents come to help. We can always take more!

Home Learning - Handwriting

The children have brought home a Handwriting booklet for Home Learning. We have been practising the correct way to form letters every day in class. The link for the formation rhymes on Little Wandle is on the Parents' page, which can be found at:

<https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Click on 'Reception Autumn Sounds' Please also refer to 'Phase 2 sounds taught in Autumn 1' to ensure you have the correct pronunciation.

Please do not ask the children to complete the booklet in one go. They can take their time over it and it does not have to be completed next week - although some practise would be useful for them.



Name Writing

We have also been focussing on name writing. Many of the children can already write their name but find it hard to use the correct way of forming their letters, when writing their name. Please help them by practising writing their name with a Capital Letter at the beginning and all the other letters in lowercase. If your child's letters have not yet been taught, you will need to look at the 'Reception Autumn 2 Sounds' on the same link.

Reception Parent/Carer Events 2025-26



September

Welcome to Reception
Tuesday 25th
8:30-9:15am
Copper Class to
Bronze Class)

October

Early Birds: Fine Motor
Activities
Tuesday 1st
8:30-9:15am
Bronze and Silver
Classrooms.

November

Phonics Workshop
Thursday 6th
8:30-9:15am
Copper Class

December

EYFS Nativity
Tuesday 16th
9:30-10:30am
Wednesday 17th
2:15-3:15pm
Main Hall

January

Maths Workshop
Thursday 22nd
January
8:30-9:15am
Copper Class

February

Live Maths Meeting
Thursday 12th
2:45-3:15pm
Bronze and Silver
Classrooms.

March

Early Birds: Maths
Wednesday 18th
8:30-9:15am
Bronze and Silver
Classrooms

April

Live Phonics
Wednesday 22nd
8:45-9:30am
Bronze and Silver
Classrooms

May

Family Reading
Celebration
Friday 8th
2:45-3:15pm
Bronze and Silver
Classrooms

June

Bronze Class
Assembly
Friday 19th
9:00-9:30am
Main Hall

July

Silver Class Assembly
Friday 3rd
9:00-9:30am
Main Hall

Early Bird: Summer Holiday
Activities
Friday 10th
8:30-9:15am

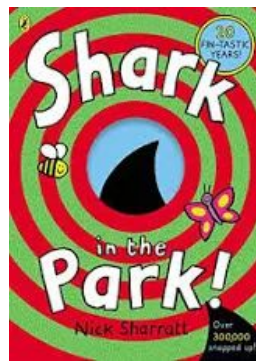
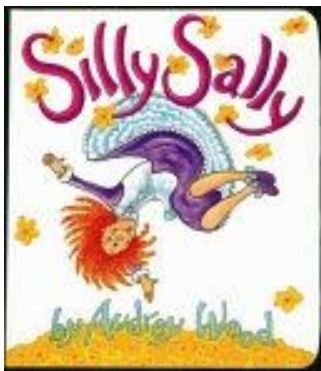
August

SUMMER
HOLIDAYS

3-a-day Stories

Every half term we focus on three stories which the children learn to recite with us at key points. The stories introduce various story elements such as, repetition and rhyme as well as helping them to learn to tell a story in the correct order.

Next half term we are reading : Silly Sally by Audrey Wood, Shark in the Park by Rod Campbell and We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen.



School Dinner Menu

The school dinner menu can be found on the school website at:

<https://www.dorchesterprimary.com/page/?title=School+Lunch&pid=114>

Contact emails

If you would like to contact any of us by email. We will reply as soon as possible within school working hours.

Mrs Annabel Glover-EYFS lead/Nursery aglover13@suttonmail.org

Miss Munaza Ahmad - Silver Class mahmad68@suttonmail.org

Mrs Tammy Rich- Bronze Class trich18@suttonmail.org

Important dates

First Day Autumn 2 - Monday 3rd November

Phonics Workshop - Thursday 6th November - 8:30-9:15am
in Copper Class

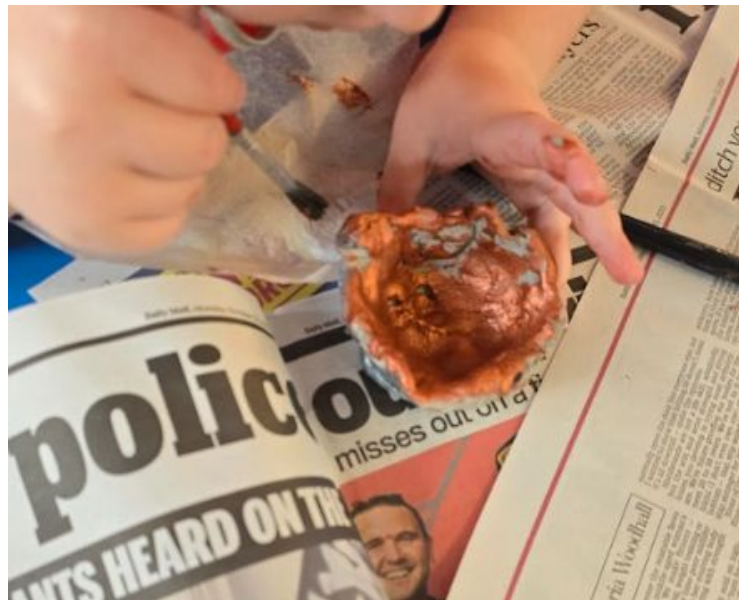
Nursery Rhyme Dress Up Day - Friday 14th November

EYFS Nativity (In the Main Hall)-

Tuesday 16th December- 9:30am

Wednesday 17th December- 2:15pm

Please share these photos with your child as a prompt to talk about this week's activities.



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Using air-dry clay, we made our very own diya lamps. Once the clay had dried, we painted the lamps and decorated them with glitter.

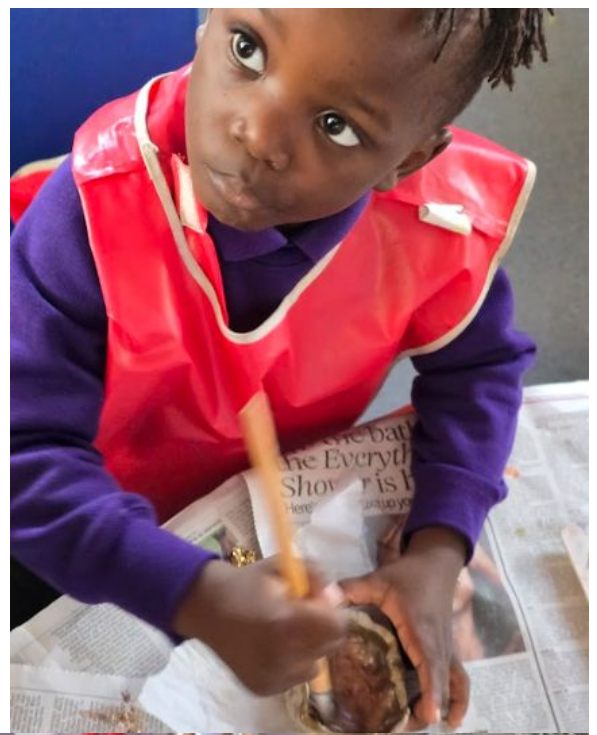
How did you make your diya lamp?

Who celebrates Diwali?

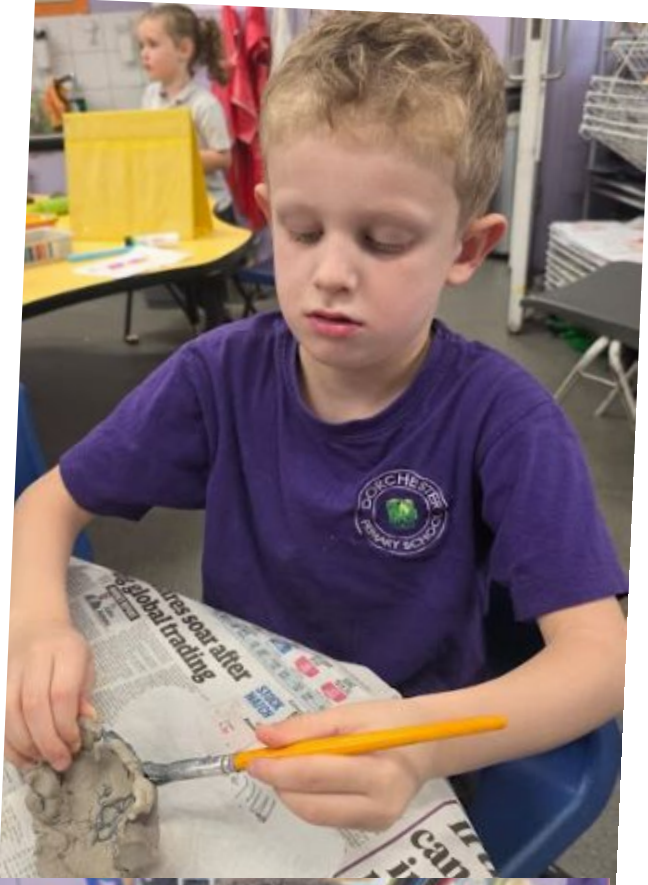
How do Hindus celebrate Diwali?



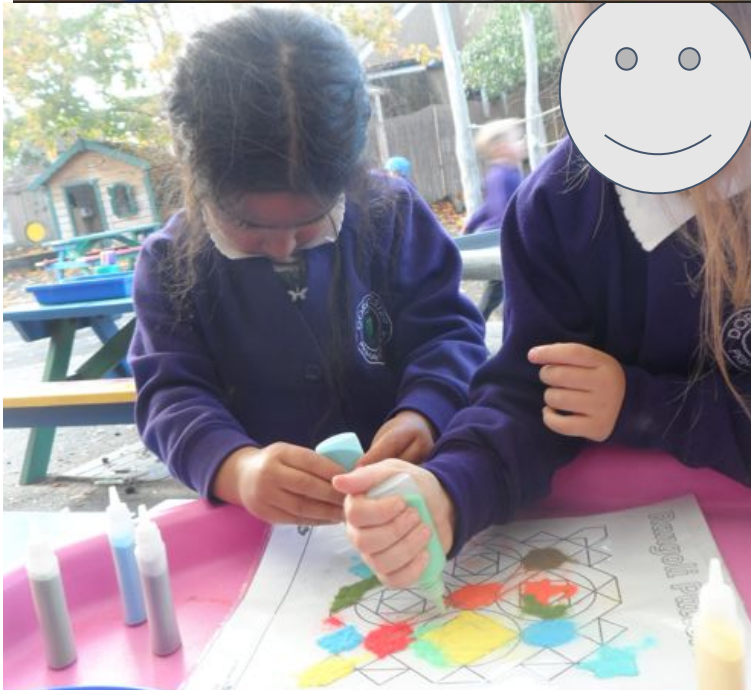












As we have been learning about how Hindus celebrate Diwali, we had a go at creating rangoli patterns using coloured sand.

How do Hindus celebrate Diwali?

Was it tricky to squeeze the coloured sand out of the bottles? Why? Why not?



Thank you to all the parents who came to Early Birds. We hope you had a lovely time and found it useful!







