

## The Children's Learning

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope that you all had a super half term holiday break (seems a long time ago now) and have adjusted to the darker evenings. The children have learnt so much already since the break both inside and outside.



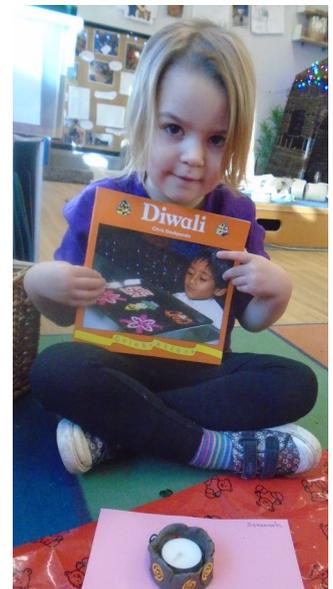
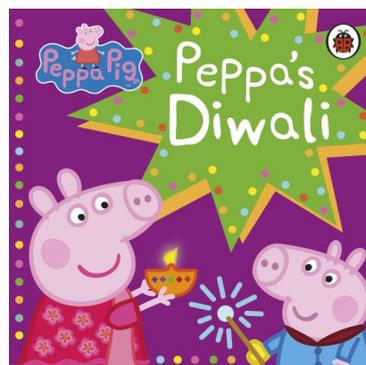
The team have re-introduced the nursery's three rules "ready, respectful and safe" to the children and they have been responding really well to them, using the words in context themselves. They enjoy checking each other's behavior with their cue cards on lan-yards, just like the grown ups.

This week at nursery we've been learning about and celebrating Diwali, the Hindu festival of light that took place on Saturday.

The children have shared stories such as Peppa's Diwali as well as non-fiction books about the festival. They have made barfi sweets themselves which resemble snow and created beautiful rangoli patterns using coloured rice.



At group time we made Diva lamps together for the children to enjoy at home. These lights are used to encourage the goddess Lakshmi into people's homes.



## Dates for your diary

Monday 23rd November—Christmas Hampers Raffle tickets on sale virtually via the school office.

Wednesday 16th December - Christmas Party day today.

Thursday 17th December- Christmas Hamper Raffles drawn.

Friday 18th December - Last day of the term. Break up for Christmas holidays. Nursery closes at 11.45am. A reminder that there is no lunch club today.

Monday 4th January—Wednesday 6th January - Settling in new children with nursery visits, Nursery closed to existing children.

Thursday 7th January - Nursery reopens (please note the new children will have staggered start times)

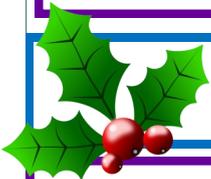
## A couple of reminders

\*Please remember to socially distance when picking up or dropping off your child. We do understand that this can be tricky at the gates.

\*Please call/ email into the school office if your child is not able to attend Nursery.

\*Keep encouraging your child to practice putting on their scarf, hat, gloves, wellies and coat independently and make sure that they come appropriately dressed for the weather. Please make sure you name all of these items clearly.

\*Thank you for ensuring that your child's snack is either a piece of fruit or a plain cracker or bread stick. It is difficult for other children when some fruit based but sweet like snacks are being eaten around them.



## Christmas Hamper Raffles

Tickets for our adult and children Christmas Hamper Raffles will be on sale from Monday 23rd November virtually via the school office, please see separate email for further details.

Thank you so much for supporting us with our fundraising this year despite the challenges of lockdowns! The money raised really helps us to enjoy the best quality resources which directly benefit the children. The playdough sale money is currently going towards purchasing some new Math's resources for both Pre-Nursery and Big Lawns as a result of our recent training.

## School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2021.

Closing date - Friday 15th January 2021

National Offer Day - Friday 16th April 2021

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/schools-and-education/school-admissions/starting-school-or-moving-junior-school-september-2021>

Our advice at this time is to look around at the schools websites and make contact with the schools to see if they are doing any virtual meetings as this will give you a feel for the school that will 'fit' your child best. **In order to have more chance of getting the school at the top of your list make sure that you do not miss the application deadline.**

**It is also important that parents/ carers complete all the choices when completing the form as this has an impact whether you are able to join a waiting list should you not be given your preferred choice.**



## Our INSET day learning

On our INSET day, the Nursery staff attended a virtual training session all about Maths in the Early Years entitled 'Counting to Calculation.' This reinforced to all of the team the importance of the children experiencing numbers to 5 and understanding mathematical concepts within 5.

Sometimes as adults we are quick to move children on to higher numbers before they have embedded their learning. Counting amounts by touching and moving objects is the most important part of counting rather than abstract/symbolic counting and rote counting. If children gain lots and lots of experience counting a very small group of objects they will then be able to move on to counting objects that can be seen but not moved and then seen but not touched.

Subertising is the ability to quickly recognise how many objects are in a group without actually counting them (e.g. spots on a dice). A deep understanding of counting will support children through the transition from counting to calculating. At home as well as counting objects that can be moved, point out house numbers, car registration plates and bus numbers when you go for a walk. This shows children that numerals have importance in the environment. Play a simple game using a dice for example a small snakes and ladders board or 'Beetle.'

You can also support your child's mathematical development by exploring different ways of making 5 using a group of objects...  $5+0$ ,  $4+1$ ...