



Birches First School

Believe, Grow, Succeed



18th October 2019

Dear Parents,

MULTI FAITH DAYS

Children and staff are looking forward to celebrating our Multi Faith days next week. This year, we will be celebrating Diwali on **Wednesday 23rd October**. During the day the children will take part in a range of activities as they learn about the festival and how it is celebrated by people of Hindu and Sikh faith.

On **Thursday 24th October** the children will be finding out about a range of religions including Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Sikhism, focusing on symbols of faith, rituals, stories and places of worship. We hope that the children will enjoy finding out about a range of faiths, reflecting on their own beliefs and developing a deeper understanding of the value of diversity in our society and the importance of respecting the beliefs of others. (Children in Year 3 will take part in activities in class on Tuesday due to their school trip on Thursday)

On **Wednesday 23rd October**, the children are invited to come to school dressed in **traditional or bright and colourful clothing**.

At the end of the day on Wednesday 23rd October (weather permitting) we would like to invite parents to join us on the playground from **2.50pm** as the whole school perform some Bollywood dancing following their workshop during the day.

After the bell has gone, we will be holding a Diwali stall selling items such as samosas, cupcakes and Indian items. All money raised will go to the **Hope & Compassion – Children in India Project**; please give generously.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Sehra for her help in organising our Diwali day. If any parents would like to get involved in any way or are able to donate any Indian gift or food items please speak to myself or Mrs Sehra (in Nursery).

Last year, the children really enjoyed having Mehndi patterns applied to their hands as part of our Diwali celebrations. We are pleased to offer this to children again this year. In order for your child to receive a Mehndi pattern we require parental consent. This can be done via your ParentPay account. Please login and select 'Mehndi Patterns' to provide consent for your child to take part in this. Please note – there is no charge, this is for permission purposes only.

Children will not be allowed to have a pattern unless consent is received.

Thank you for your continued support, we are looking forward to another exciting few days at Birches!

Best wishes,

Mrs J Ferretti

Acting Headteacher