



Birches First School
Nursery Newsletter
Autumn TWO- 20/11/2020



What have we explored? This week, the children have been actively learning about how we can all be kinder to each other as part of anti-bullying week. We decorated our jigsaw puzzle with a handprint to show kind hands and lots of different sequins, jewels and fingerprints to make each jigsaw individual. Together we have shared ways in which we can help our friends more such as asking them if they want to play, sharing our toys, taking turns and using our manners and words such as sorry. This week we have been learning about the festival of Diwali. Diwali is the five-day festival of light, celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains across the world. We enjoyed learning a special Diwali dance creating new movements and actions to traditional music as part of the festival.

Reading for Pleasure-

We are still very much enjoying the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. I wonder if you have any traditional tale stories you could read at home.

Shape Show- Square

This week we have been searching for squares. How many squares are in your home?

We used square pieces to create our own Rangoli patterns for Diwali.

We enjoyed 'circle' crackers and 'square' waffles as part of our snack for a Friday treat.

Save the Date-

No events scheduled.

Notices-

The Nursery class page on the school website is a working progress. I have started to upload some photos to share with you which hopefully showcase the wonderful activities and exploring Nursery really do 'get up to'.

I do hope to add to this over the coming weeks as we have so many wonderful moments we have captured, it is only right that they are shared with you.

We have welcomed some new children into Nursery over the past few weeks.

My email for the new parents is jmoge@birches.staffs.sch.uk

Please feel free to email any news, photos or participation with home learning tasks.

Word of the Week- Diwali (noun)

'a Hindu festival with lights, held in the period of October to November. It is particularly associated with Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity and marks the beginning of the financial year in India.'

"We learned a new dance as part of Diwali celebrations."

Try this at home!! Eye Spy (initial sounds)

This week we have concentrated on hearing the initial sounds (phonemes) at the beginning of words. At home you could continue this with a simple game of eye spy. You might collect objects/ pictures from around the house and place them on a tray. A grown up will say "eye spy something beginning with the sound ..."



Challenge- Perhaps you could draw a picture beginning with...

Parent information- Please follow the link to understand how to pronounce pure sounds (no added 'uh') <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

It is crucial children can hear the sounds clearly and can distinguish between different phonemes. At this stage children are trying to distinguish and identify words with the same or different initial sounds (phonemes). Children need to explore a variety of listening activities throughout their play before structured phonics, as this is the most effective way for them to embed their learning.