

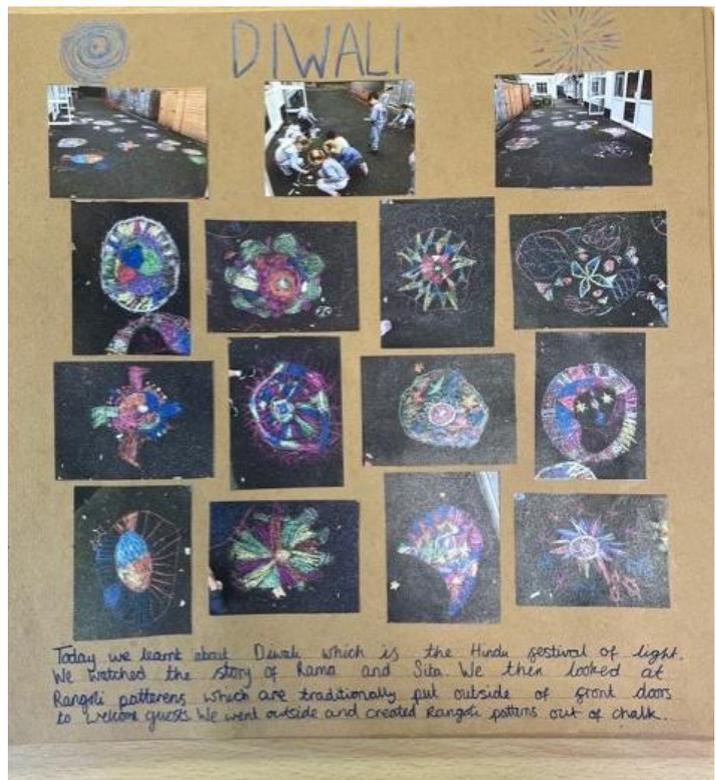


Newsletter 5 November 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Happy Diwali!

Thursday marked the Hindu festival of Diwali and the children really enjoyed learning about this important occasion. On Wednesday we had a whole school assembly where the children learned the story of Rama and Sita and then to mark Diwali itself, the children enjoyed learning about rangoli patterns which Hindus draw at Diwali to welcome their Goddess Lakshmi. Year 3 decorated the path outside their classroom with rangoli chalk patterns and some children in reception class even created their own Rama and Sita costumes!



Child Development Workshops for Parents and Carers – Monday 8th November

Just a quick reminder about the child development workshop on Monday at 10.30am with Mrs Pickard and Dr Ali D'Amario. If you'd like to come, it's still not too late – all we ask is that you email the school office as soon as possible so we know how many people to expect.

Journey in love – Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Last year, our school consulted with parents on our relationships and sex education policy. As part of that process, we discussed that we have adopted the scheme of work called, “A Journey in Love,” which is approved by the Catholic church and in line with Catholic teaching. At school we believe that RSE is best taught in partnership with parents and as part of this commitment, I will always let you know what is being taught and when so that you are able to reinforce the learning at home and answer any questions which may arise.

This half term, the children will be learning the first lesson in the Journey in love scheme which is all about the social and emotional aspects of healthy, loving relationships. In the week beginning 15th November your children will explore the following learning objectives:

Reception: To recognise the joy of being a special person in my family.

Year 1: To recognise the signs that I am loved by my family.

Year 2: To recognise the joy and friendship of belonging to a diverse community.

Year 3: To describe and give reasons how friendships make us feel happy and safe.

Year 4: To describe how we all should be accepted and respected.

Year 5: To show knowledge and understanding of emotional relationship changes as we grow and develop.

Year 6: To develop a secure understanding that stable and caring relationships, which may be of different types are at the heart of happy families.

If anyone would like any further details we are always happy to share so please feel free to call or email the office if we can help in any way.

Geography in Year 2

In Year 2 we have been pretending to be weather presenters. In Geography we are learning about different types of weather and we tried to predict what the weather was going to be like. We enjoyed learning about the different weather symbols used in the weather forecast.



Mental Health and Wellbeing Audit

We are aware the last year has been challenging for many of our families and some of our children have needed support to manage their mental health and well-being. We are keen to know your opinion on our approach. Please can you take a few minutes to complete the survey by clicking on the link below – there are only 9 questions so it shouldn't take very much of your time and it would be very helpful for us to make sure we are doing absolutely everything we can to support.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/F8P5238>

Parent Governor Vacancy – Ballot Process

Many thanks to the three parents who stepped forward to nominate themselves for consideration as parent governors. The next stage of the process is to hold a ballot. Please look in your child's book bag on Monday afternoon for a letter outlining the process, the candidates' personal statements and your ballot paper.

Poppy Appeal

We are planning to commemorate Remembrance Day next Thursday and poppies are on sale in each class to raise money for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We'll also have collection boxes and poppies by each playground gate at the end of the school day on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon next week. In addition, the office is selling zip pulls, reflectors, wristbands and snap bands to help raise money for the appeal.



Zip Pull

SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p



Reflector

SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p



Silicon Wristband

SUGGESTED DONATION: £1



Snap Band

SUGGESTED DONATION: £1.50



Registered Charity No. 219279

Friday 19th November – Individual school photographs

The school photographer will be coming into school on Friday 19th November to take individual photographs of the children. In addition, we will also ask for photographs of siblings who are already at school to be photographed together.

In the pre-covid era, I think the school used to try and offer to take photographs of sibling groups including children who are not yet at school. I'm not sure as yet whether we will be able to do this, but if you are interested in including a younger sibling in a photograph, would you be able to email the office to let them know so that I have an idea of what the demand is before I talk to the photographer. If you could do this by Tuesday 9th November it would be really helpful. Many thanks.

Monday 29th November – Xavier school closure day

All of the primary and secondary schools in the Xavier trust are closed on Monday 29th November. I will ask Planet Soccer to run a Multi-sports Camp that day and will confirm whether they can do it as soon as possible.

Christmas and Advent Celebration Dates

We're currently working on our plan for KS2 Advent reflection, the KS1 nativity play, Christmas parties and Christmas lunches and I will get the dates out to you in next week's newsletter.

Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day 15th November

Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from 15 to 19 November 2021 and it has the theme One Kind Word. The week will begin with Odd Socks Day which we are looking to support at St Hugh's. Odd socks day gives us an opportunity to talk about difference and kindness so please support us by sending your child to school in odd socks on 15th November to show we're ALL unique and different. Here's a link to the anti-bullying alliance which explains more.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2021-one-kind-word>

At St Hugh's, we don't tolerate unkind behaviour of any kind and talk to the children about the importance of love, respect and kindness and encourage them to speak up if anyone is unkind. It is really helpful if you can reinforce the message at home, by encouraging your child to tell an adult immediately if anyone is unkind to them.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

God bless,
Mrs Harper