Ask Me About....

Week beginning Monday 25th November 2019 (Year R)

Here are a few of things we have been doing at school this week - please make time to talk to your child about what we have been learning during our fourth week back. You can use this sheet as a gentle reminder!

- Our topic for this half term is Sparkle and Shine! So far we have explored bonfire and fireworks night and this week we have continued to explore the celebration of Diwali!
- In Literacy we have been learning more about Diwali by watching a short BBC clip about a girl named Jessica. She told us about how she celebrates Divali and we compared what we had learnt to what she does. We had a go an activity called Text Mapping. Text mapping is a visual technique to help children understand how information is organised, especially stories. It also helps develop the children oracy skills - a range of speaking and listening skills used for comprehension.
- Last week we made some clay divas - these are candle holders as Diwali is the festival of light. This week we painted and decorated them and they will soon be ready to send home. We have also learnt from watching Jessica in the short BBC clip that she used henna to paint her hands with. We have also coloured our own mendhi patterns on drawings of hands - this is a ceremonial art form which originated in ancient India.
- In Math's we have been recapping how to write and form our numbers 1-5 as well as learning about 1 more and 1 less. Please help the children practice writing their numbers at home and the correct number formation. The children may be able to remember the rhyme that goes with each number to help them remember the formation.
- We are continuing our phonics and have been recapping all the sounds and actions we have learnt so far. This week we have been learning about diagraphs. A diagraph is two letters that make one sound. The sounds we have learnt this week are /ay/, /ee/ /igh/ and /ow/. We have also been thinking about words that have these sounds in - please keep thinking at home too. Please continue to encourage the children to have a go at completing their ‘homework’ in the red sound books.
- In PE we have finished our Nativity dance and we have started to put our Nativity together. We were able to go into the hall and watch the other classes perform their dances as well as performing ours. The children really were great and we cannot wait to show you the whole Nativity.
- The weather has been wet and windy this week so some of us have decided that we would rather stay in the warm this week! Due to the leaves it has been very slippery outside in the playground area however lots of the children have still wanted to go outside and have been having lots of fun playing on the bikes and in the sheds.

Coats!
As the weather continues to get colder, please make sure your child has a named coat, and possibly some gloves or a hat, in school. It would be great if the children could also practice zipping up the coats as this is something they struggle with.

Reading Books
Please note that we will be sending home reading books during the weeks commencing Monday 2nd and 9th of December as usual. On Friday 13th December we will remove all books and the yellow contact books for the holidays. You will then start receiving reading and library books again when we return to school in January.

Dates for the Diary
Christmas Fair 3.30pm-5.00pm Friday 6th December
Carol Service at the church Tuesday 17th December
Last day of term Friday 20th December

**Next week’s special theme .... Advent**
The Early Years Team 😊