



The Hayfield Herald

Diwali

A day learning about the festival of Diwali, Year 2 caught the plague and we saw some extravagant vegetables with TOPs!

What a wonderful day we all had on Wednesday celebrating the Festival of Diwali! The children spent all day participating in a range of activities to help them to gain a sense of Indian culture. KS2 enjoyed making chapatis, creating lanterns, sculpting salt dough diwa lamps and doing some Indian dancing. KS1 children painted rangoli patterns, made Indian sweets, learnt some Indian dance moves and enjoyed singing songs to celebrate the return of Rama and Sita.

Some of the children enjoyed an extra special treat during the morning. Year 2 were visited by Dr Kapur who shared with them his own experiences and wisdom of Diwali and then the KS2 children who make up our Global and Cultural committee interviewed him with their own questions about Diwali and Indian culture. We are extremely grateful to him for giving us some of his time and the children were truly transfixed. Miss Nagar kindly shared with us some artefacts from home such as her beautiful Indian jewellery and Dandiya dancing sticks. We are also thankful to Mrs Wells for allowing Miss Priestley to wear some Indian clothing of hers for the afternoon.

This week the Plague has been detected in Year 2. Mrs Plesca made a terrible mistake by dropping a vial of the disease onto the hall floor and Mr Hobbs had to put us into quarantine! Luckily, the children had lots of ideas for how to solve the problem by writing recipes for medicines, making potpourri bags, writing prayers, designing rat traps, learning how to clean their hands thoroughly and by filtering dirty water! Phew!

Thank you to Miss Priestley who has been busy recently updating our school blogs and Facebook page to share some of the amazing things we have been doing. We have loved your fantastic feedback and were really pleased to receive this one about the Diwali day and plague in Year 2 from a parent. Thank you so much it means a lot to us!

'Just wanted to send a quick email to thank you all. My children have been so excited and haven't stopped talking about all the interactive /emersion activities they have been doing at school. I know just how much effort goes into all of this for the children and wanted to say thanks. They are lucky to go to a school that's not just preparing them for their futures but one that also is making memories they will remember forever.'

Today, during Celebration Assembly, some of our year 5 girls told us about a campaign called Purple4Polio that they have been part of with the Brownie group. They have helped to plant crocus flowers to help raise awareness for efforts to end polio. It was heart-warming to hear about them choosing to participate in something so important. Well done girls!

A big well done to TOPs for organising such a wonderful and creative event with the Vegetable Extravaganza last Friday after school. The entries were all fantastic and we gave out the prizes today in celebration assembly.

On Monday we also presented our KS2 Legend's with their brand new Legend ties. You may see them round school as they are now easily recognisable with their ties which are navy blue and orange as the reverse of the usual tie and look really smart. Thank you to Catherine's Mum who came up with the idea last year.

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

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