



'Aspire not to have more, but to be more'

YEAR OF PRAYER

# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

1st November 2024



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back after what we hope was a restful and enjoyable half-term break! We are excited to continue our learning journey together and have lots of exciting activities planned for the weeks ahead. A very happy **Diwali** to those celebrating! May this Festival of Lights bring joy, prosperity, and happiness to your families.



## Religious Education

**Religious Education:** This week, the children have been learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali and listened to the story of Rama and Sita. They discovered that Diwali, the Festival of Lights, symbolises the victory of good over evil. We also discussed ways we can practise kindness and make positive choices every day.

**Home learning task:** At home, you might discuss what it means to do a good deed and how we can help one another as a way of showing God's love in our actions. This ties into the values of kindness and compassion, reflecting the goodness that God wants us to share with others. You could talk about small ways we can be God's light in the world, like helping around the house, being a good friend, or saying a prayer for someone in need. This connection helps reinforce both the spirit of Diwali and the values we cherish in our faith.

## Phonics



**In the world of phonics:** We will continue to work following the Little Wandle scheme. We encourage parents to interact with the Little Wandle webpage to further and deepen their understanding of the process of learning phonics. This week, the children have been learning about digraphs, where two letters come together to make a single sound, as well as practising the "j" sound.

### Home Learning Task:

At home, please go over this week's new tricky words:

*put, pull, and full.*

These words need to be learned by sight, as they don't follow typical phonics rules.

**Matching Game:** Make a matching game using pairs of tricky words on cards. Your child can turn them over to find pairs, helping reinforce sight recognition.

*Learning to love, loving to  
learn.*

LOVE

PEACE

FAITH

RESPECT





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**Literacy: Communication and Language**

In literacy this week, the children listened to the story of *Rama and Sita*. We discussed each character, exploring their traits and roles within the story. To build questioning skills, we played a "Guess the Character" game, which introduced the idea of asking good questions. The children practised starting questions with words like *who*, *what*, and *where* to help identify characters and key details about them. This activity encouraged them to think carefully about the types of questions that lead to clear answers.

**Home learning task:** Continue to read at home with your child.



**Maths**

**In Maths**, we have investigated numbers 1 - 3; we have adopted the mastery approach of taking our time to investigate each number to strengthen children's understanding of numbers. We encourage parents to engage with counting songs and exploring numbers within the immediate environment.

**Home learning task:** Please practise recognising numbers in different environments e.g. at home, on the bus, on the roads, at the doctors, etc.

Warm regards, The Reception Team.

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