



21.11.25

Our topic this week is 'Diwali'. We have read books about Diwali celebrations.

Books we have read:

- The Diwali story: Rama and Sita
- First festivals: Diwali
- Lighting a lamp
- Dipal's Diwali

Activities/provision this week:

- Diwali lightbox activity - The children used the light box to explore and experiment with colours and light. They experimented what would happen with different colourful materials when putting them on the light box.
- Sensory tray - Rangoli patterns- We watched videos of people making Rangoli patterns for Diwali. The children made their own Rangoli patterns again using crushed up chalk.
- Rangoli patterns loose parts - The children made rangoli patterns using different loose parts. For example, they used colourfully painted pasta to make Diwali patterns.
- Mehndi patterns - We looked at photographs of Mehndi patterns and talked about how they are part of Diwali traditions. The children painted and coloured mehndi patterns on cut out outlines of hands.

- Diva lamp playdough - The children made 'Diva lamps' out of playdough and tea light candles.
- Construction area - The children made Rangoli patterns and experimented with shapes using stickle bricks and wooden shapes.
- Diwali home corner - We read 'First festivals: Diwali' and talked about how people celebrate Diwali for example, with specific decorations and food. The children played in a Diwali home corner with party food, fairy lights, pretend candles etc.
- On Friday, the children made salt dough diva lamps. They helped to mix the ingredients and mould the diva lamps into the correct shape. We will decorate them next week.
- Stay and play/school open afternoon - The children enjoyed joining in with our Diwali themed stay and play. Thank you to everyone who attended!

### **Phonics: Body percussion**

This term our phonics focus is Body Percussion! The children are learning to develop their awareness of sounds and rhythm. They have been using their bodies to make different sounds e.g. tapping, stomping, clicking, clapping. We have been practicing making sounds slow, fast, loud and quiet.

### **Maths: Order principle - counting in order**

The children have been learning how to:

- Count things that cannot be seen e.g. claps, stamps
- Count objects that cannot be moved e.g. objects on a photograph
- Count objects in an irregular order

Next week the topic will be: **The Gingerbread Man!**

### **Important information**

- Please can the children bring in any **versions of 'The Gingerbread Man' and any winter themed stories.**

- **Christmas Craft Workshop for parents to join their children - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2-3pm** - Due to numbers and capacity this event is only for children who usually attend on a Wednesday,
- **Applications for starting primary school in September 2026 open on 15th November 2025 and close on 15th January 2026.** The date that all allocations of school places are announced in England is known as 'offer day'. For September 2025 primary school starters this will be on **16th April 2026**. Apply online at the Citizens Portal.
- Please send in WOW moments for your children to share at circle time - [pre-school@bishopstawton-primary.org](mailto:pre-school@bishopstawton-primary.org)