Big Idea - Celebrating Diwali

This week we have begun the new half term by looking at the Hindu festival of light, Diwali, that is celebrated on 8th November this year. We have linked the children's experiences of bonfire night and watching fireworks with the fireworks that happen to celebrate Diwali. The children have loved looking at special Hindu objects and clothes and have even prepared and decorated the role play area to celebrate Diwali with a prayer space, a kitchen to make special treats, a dining table decorated with silverware and Happy diwali signs to welcome the guests! The children have loved learning about rangoli patterns and have made these in many different ways across the classroom and outdoor area as well as designing our own saris, mehndi patterns and diva lamps!

Next week's Big Idea and Big Challenge

Next week we will learn more about Autumn and the changing seasons. We will investigate the inside of our pumpkins, picking out the seeds ready to plant in our vegetable patch and using interesting words like squishy, mushy, gooey, wet, stringy and hard to talk about the pumpkin with our friends. We will also be talking about autumnal fruits and harvest. If you have any pumpkins that you would like to donate to school then we would be very appreciative so that we can compare the different varieties, sizes and appearances. After halloween has been and gone if you have any carved pumpkins that you no longer need we would love to have them at school for our Autumn week too! Why not go for an Autumn walk? Look out for signs of Autumn and collect some interesting leaves or conkers. Maybe you could draw what you find or even have a go at writing a list.Use the Autumn objects you find to explore counting. Can your child match numbers to groups of objects or count out the right amount when you show them a number? Maybe you could explore different ways of making 5 or 10. If you have celebrated Bonfire Night, maybe you could create a picture of fireworks? You could use felt tips, crayons, paint or even sequins, glitter and scrunched up tissue paper. Can you label your picture with some words to describe the fireworks, e.g sparkly, loud, crackly...

Have fun exploring and learning at home! Don't forget to share what you've been up to with us on Tapestry!





