Squirrels – Autumn Term Round up



In our celebration topic, we have been finding out about Diwali - the festival of light. We read "Little Glow" and this beautiful book looks at the way that light is used in many celebrations around the world – Diwali, Chinese New Year, and Halloween are all featured. We have been learning about who might celebrate Diwali, how it is celebrated and what special traditions are included. We have been creating rangoli art using cotton buds on tin foil, drawing beautiful chalk art outside and making diya lamps out of clay. The children will decorate these and take them home to display in their windows.

In RE, we have shared pictures of all the children as babies. We discussed how we've changed, where we came from and discovered that our birthday is the celebration of our birth, which was a bit of a surprise for some of the Squirrels! We are now making the link that Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. Our nativity tells the story of Jesus' birthday and the events leading up to it. The Squirrels have been singing the songs, practising their roles, dressing up and having lots of rehearsals for our first show on Monday 9th December.

Christmas is here! Santa's Workshop arrived in squirrel's classroom. The children have been wrapping, cutting, folding and sticking presents and cards in Santa's workshop. We have a chief elf who is in charge of supporting the other elves at their busy work. The elves have made gifts, notes and cards for each other. The role-play has improved our use of tools, fine motor skills, imaginary play and communication development. All the children have written a letter to Santa using their sounds and tree decorations.

In Maths, we have been finding 1 more and 1 less in the continuous provision. The children are becoming good at counting accurately and taking extra care to be accurate. This half term we have been looking at the properties of simple shapes, making comparisons and beginning to name the shapes accurately. We have been making repeating patterns with shapes/symbols and have created lovely wrapping paper to take home.

In SCARF, we had been learning to be sensitive towards others and celebrate what makes each person unique. We have been recognising our differences and the things we have in common with each other. The children have spent time speaking to each other about their lives and family traditions. We also had a mental health work shop lead by a SCARF educator.

We have been learning lots of new tricky words this term and the best way to start recognising them is by playing lots of fun "tricky word" games. The all-time favourite is climbing the tricky word ladder; we made a giant one outside and the children loved it.

Finally, we know it's an incredibly busy half term and Squirrels are doing so well. I know how excited all the Squirrels are about Christmas. It's a very special time of year and made even more so when you enjoy it with friends and family. Please add your Christmas celebrations to Tapestry so we can share these with the class after the holidays. Mrs. Martin and I would like to wish all the families at Broughton Primary School a very merry Christmas!

Squirrels Super Hero Day - Tuesday 14th January 2025 - Please send your child into school dressed up as a super hero of their choice.

"Welcome in Wednesday" – Wednesday 22nd January







