

## 2-Year-old Nursery Highlights

### Autumn 2

Welcome to our Autumn 2 highlights, and what a fantastic, fun half term we have had in Nursery. We have been learning so much, we have been looking at different celebrations that have taken place within our community during this term, sharing stories about different cultures, exploring different cultures and ways of life, noticing changes over time and our environment around us, helping to support different charities as a school and making some special Christmas memories with our families and friends.

Please take a look at some of our highlights from this half term.

We started our term off by continuing with our theme of Autumn, using our senses to explore pumpkins, describing the different textures from both inside and outside, using our gross and fine motor skills to help us. We discovered seeds inside the pumpkin and asked to plant some to see if we could grow some pumpkins of our own for next year, once we had finished with our pumpkin we watched how it changed over time and slowly decayed from a big round orange pumpkin, to a smaller squashed discoloured pumpkin to help our learning about growing and changes over time,



During this term there has been lots of celebrations that we have joined in with, exposing us to traditions and values that as a Methodist school we join in with and those from other religious celebrations too. Within the first few weeks we celebrated, bonfire night looking at why we celebrate at this time, creating lots of art work both individually and as a team and talking about what we could see and hear.



We looked at the Hindu festival of lights, Diwali, looking at why this is a special time for Hindus and how they celebrate this special occasion with family, friends and the community. We discovered they use Diya lamps to light up their homes to celebrate light over darkness, and decorate their floors with Rangoli art, so we decided to have a go at creating our own diya lamps and working together to create a colourful Rangoli picture out of coloured sand.



We also joined in with the Remembrance celebrations taking time to visit the various memorials we have within our school to remember those who have, and still do help keep us safe.



For road safety week we looked at how to keep safe when walking with our grownups to and from school, learning the important message of, **Stop, Look, Listen and Hold hands** to cross the road. As the seasons are changing and it is becoming darker we looked at how important it is to be seen. We did an experiment looking how reflective materials shine when hit by light when it is dark, and how this has a big impact to allow drivers to see us more easily at night, to help keep us safe we received a reflective keyring to put on our bags or coats.



We have shared the story of Handa's surprise, discovering Africa and bringing the book to life. We used our senses to explore the different fruits from Handa's basket, describing how they felt to touch, what they smelt like, comparing size and weight before tasting them to see which fruit we liked the best and recalling which animals like that fruit too. We looked at the weather and how it is hot in Africa, looking also at the clothes and houses Handa had. We listened to different songs and music from Africa and created movement to the sound of African music making our own musical instruments. We took on the challenge to find tangerines hidden outside having a go at using positional language to say where we had found the fruit, then worked together to count how many we had and how many more we needed to find.



We were so proud to be able to show off the new Christmas songs we had learned to our families during our Christmas stay and play session with Pre-school. We especially enjoyed spending time with our grownups to create the Christmas crafts feeling the Christmas spirit and embracing our value of love.





We learned the reason why we celebrate at Christmas, sharing the Bible story of the birth of baby Jesus looking at how things are different now to how they were when Jesus was born. We took on different challenges and created lots of different crafts linked to the Nativity and to Christmas.



We ended our year together with a Christmas party which was a lovely way to say good bye and good luck to our children who will be moving on to preschool in January. We joined in with games, dancing, eating our Christmas party food and had a special visit from Father Christmas.



We have had so much fun this half term we hope you have enjoyed reading all about it. We would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year ahead.

