



## Remembrance Events W/C 6th November



Here at Meadowside the children have been taking part in various activities to mark Remembrance Day. On Tuesday, children from our Reception classes walked down to the War Memorial to take time to reflect and pay their respects to those service men and women and innocent civilians who lost their lives or were injured during war and conflict. The Reception teachers were very proud of the children who displayed the value of respect impeccably and we would like to thank the parent helpers who took time out of their day to accompany the children on the walk.

On Thursday, Mr Cooper from the Royal British Legion took an assembly for our KS1 and KS2 children where he spoke to children about the importance of signifying Remembrance Day.

Today the whole school took part in a one minute silence. The children showed a great level of respect and maturity for this important occasion. Today, members of our JLT, accompanied by Mrs Garnham and Miss Tomkins went to the Burton Latimer War Memorial to lay our school wreath. We were very proud of the children who displayed our school values of respect and reflection perfectly.



# Diwali Celebrations 12th November

## Diwali

### What is Diwali?

Deepawali or Diwali is the biggest and the brightest of all Hindu festivals. It is the festival of lights: deep means "light" and avari "a row" to become "a row of lights." Diwali is marked by four days of celebration, which literally illuminates the country with its brilliance and dazzles people with its joy.

### When is Diwali?

The Diwali festival occurs in late October or early November. It falls on the 15th day of the Hindu month of Kartik, so it varies every year. Each of the four days in the festival of Diwali is marked with a different tradition. What remains constant is the celebration of life, its enjoyment, and a sense of goodness. The start date for Diwali this year is Sunday 12th of November.

### How is it observed?

For many people, Diwali honours the Hindu goddess of wealth, Lakshmi. The lights and lamps are said to help Lakshmi find her way into peoples' homes, bringing prosperity in the year to come! It's also a celebration of good triumphing over evil, and different legends based on this theme are associated with Diwali.

### Greetings

A traditional Diwali greeting is to say 'wishing you a Diwali that brings happiness prosperity and joy to you and all your family.'



### The Spiritual Significance of Diwali

Beyond the lights and fun, Diwali is also a time to reflect on life and make changes for the upcoming year. With that, there are a number of customs that revellers hold dear each year.

**Give and forgive.** It is common practice that people forget and forgive the wrongs done by others during Diwali. There is an air of freedom, festivity, and friendliness everywhere.

**Rise and shine.** Waking up during the Brahmamuhurta (at 4 a.m., or 1 1/2 hours before sunrise) is a great blessing from the standpoint of health, ethical discipline, efficiency in work, and spiritual advancement. The sages who instituted this Deepawali custom may have hoped that their descendants would realise its benefits and make it a regular habit in their lives.

**Unite and unify.** Diwali is a unifying event, and it can soften even the hardest of hearts. It is a time when people mingle about in joy and embrace one another.

### Terminology

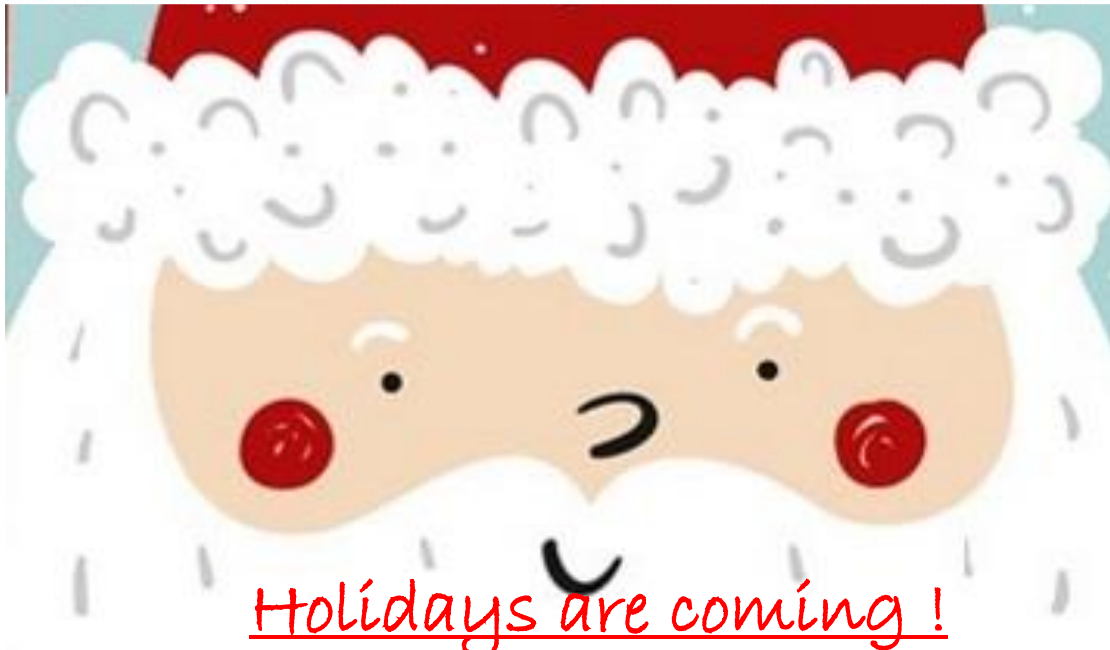
**Diva lamp** - A Diva Lamp is an oil lamp that is used in India and Nepal and are often used as temporary lighting for special occasions such as Diwali. The lamps are placed around the home and in gardens to invite in the Goddess of Wealth, Lakshmi

**Rangoli** - Rangoli, which means rows of colours, is drawn on the entrance and filled with colours during Diwali.

**Mehndi** - Mehndi is a form of temporary skin decoration using a paste created with henna. In the West, mehndi is commonly known as henna tattoo, although it is not actually a tattoo as only the surface of the skin is inked.



The children will be completing Diwali activities over the coming days to celebrate this tradition. Please do ask your child what they have learnt.



We have lots of exciting events planned for Christmas. Please see below the key dates between now and when we break up!

1-14.12.23	Christmas Post
7.12.23	Christmas Dinner
8.12.23	FS Nativity 10am KS1 Hall
8.12.23	House Afternoon PM
11.12.23	Y4 Christmas Production 10am KS2 Hall
12.12.23	Y5 Christmas Production (carols) 10am KS2 Hall
12.12.23	EHT Afternoon tea
13.12.23	Buttercup Boogie 10am KS1 Hall
14.12.23	Year 3 Christmas Production 10am KS2 Hall
18.12.23	Year 1 Christmas Production 10am KS1 Hall
18.12.23	Year 2 Christmas Production 2pm KS1 Hall





# School Notices

## Thank You

Thank you to **Morrisons** in Kettering for their very kind donation for our Harvest Festival. Please see the photo opposite of Jasmine from Robin Class with the goods!



## Second Chance Flu Vaccinations



If your child missed the flu vaccinations that were carried out in school last week and you would still like your child to receive the vaccine please contact **Northamptonshire School Aged Immunisation Service** on **0800 170 7055** (Option 5) Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm

## Librarian Required

We require a volunteer school Librarian to help out in our School Library. You will be involved in supporting the children whilst they are using the Library. Should you be interested in finding out more details about this role please contact the School Office in the first instance.



## Children In Need Friday 17th November

Children are invited to wear mufti on this date. The theme this year is **SPOTACULAR** so in a nod to this theme children can wear something spotty. Should you wish to make a donation you can do this on [scopay.com](http://scopay.com).



Just a reminder that all school meals must be ordered by midnight the day before it is required.



This Year Christmas Dinner will be on **Thursday 7th December**. Please log on to Love Food to order. Please note that on this day the only option is a Christmas dinner. Should your child want a packed lunch you will need to provide this.