

# Year 1 Newsletter

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

For English this week, we have been learning all about Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. We read the story of Rama and Sita and acted out the story in small groups using stick puppets. Then we retold the story of Rama and Sita in our own words, using pictures to help us remember the order of the story. We also read a book about India, to help us understand the similarities and differences of the country, people, food and clothes, compared to the United Kingdom.

In maths this week, we recapped how to find half of a number by sharing objects into two equal groups. We also looked at comparing length by finding objects that are longer and shorter than our hand span. Then we practised using a ruler to measure different lengths in centimetres.

For science, we began to look in more detail at the different seasons. We discussed the months that belong in each season and thought about what changes we see from one season to the next. Then we made a season wheel, showing the seasons and the months of the year. We also drew pictures to represent each season.

I have swapped the children into new topic groups. I try to do this at the start of new terms to ensure the children work with a mixture of peers, and not always with the same person. Therefore, the children will have new days for their show-and-tell:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Sunshine	Snow	Lightning	Rainbow	Tornado

We will also begin spelling tests this term. With each newsletter, I will send five words for the children to practise, to be tested the following Friday in school. As the children will all be at different stages with their spelling, I will also attach some **optional** trickier spellings.

We do not want to put pressure on children at this young age, so if they do not get their spellings all correct, we will not make them repeat the same spellings the following week, we simply encourage them to practise the new set of spellings. Spelling tests in Year 1 are a way of getting the children used to this style of testing and to help them not only with their writing, but with their reading too.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

Miss Hutchings

## Year 1 Spellings

Each Friday, I will send home a small list of 5 high frequency words for your children to practise writing at home. The following Friday, the children will write these words in a spelling test. Here are the words for your child to practise this week:

the
and
my
went
go

If your child is already confident in writing these words, then you can ask them to practise writing these within a sentence.

Trickier, optional spellings:

played	because	November	autumn
--------	---------	----------	--------