



Diwali Celebration Assembly

Pre-school and Reception held a celebration assembly this morning. The children acted out the story of Rama and Sita. This Asian story is thousands of years old and has inspired poet and writers for centuries. For Sikhs, Diwali is particularly important because it celebrates the release from prison of the sixth guru, Guru Hargobind, and 52 other princes with him, in 619. Guru Hargobind had a cloak made with 52 pieces of string and so each prince was able to hold onto one string and leave prison.

'Diwali is the festival of lights' - Amarjeet

'Everyone wears new clothes' - Amrita



'We have made Diya lamps' - Olivia

'We made Diwali cards' - Elysia



Charlie was Prince Rama in love with Princess Sita. Elijah was the monkey God and Luca was Ravana the ten headed Demon King from Lanka. The children played a game where they all acted out the characters for the school.

Mrs Reid and Mrs Oliver were very proud of the children.



'Good triumphs over evil' - Sarah

'My nanny made Diwali sweets' - Gurpreet



Coming up..

Monday 12th-Friday 16th - Anti Bullying Week

Monday 12th - Year 5 Young Leaders Training with HSSP

Wednesday 14th - Open Morning (Prospective Parents)

Thursday 15th - Year 6 Swimming

Friday 16th - Children in Need

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Marvellous Mehndi to Celebrate Diwali

Around Wednesday 7th November of this year, Hindus and Sikhs around the world will begin their celebrations for Diwali. This is a five day festival, which coincides with Hindu New Year, and celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, linking to the full translation of Diwali as 'row of lighted lamps'.

To celebrate this religious festival, people have small oil lamps lit, enjoy firework, sweets and dress to celebrate when visiting friends and family.

As part of our learning in Year 5 Religious Education, to celebrate this occasion, the children decorated their hands in mehndi patterns which is a form of body art usually painted on with paste from the henna plant. The children worked hard to create intricate patterns using researched pictures. The classroom was buzzing with excitement and smiles beamed as Religious Education was linked to such a creative activity! All children were very sensible with this, especially as some got very messy! Well done Year 5!



Year 3 Stone Age

Year 3 children have been learning about the Stone Age period. They have had fun making objects and animals that were used at that time. See if you can spot the saber toothed tiger! **Mrs Lakanu**



Pumpkin Fun in Reception

The Reception class had fun this week learning about pumpkins and getting to scoop two out. They counted the seeds once they had them in their bowls. **Mrs Oliver**



Computing—Year 6 Protective Firewalls

Whilst studying **networks**, the Year 6 children have delved deeper in their understanding of how these networks work, including the global network of the



Internet. This deeper learning has led them to study **firewalls**-what they are and why they are used. This began with **Mrs Platford** trying to access her Facebook and Instagram account on the school network.



Of course, a message appeared, highlighting how the content was 'blocked', 'access denied'. By seeing this, the children recognised that firewalls **filter** the **packets** of information sent through the internet for **safety purposes** using **algorithms** of certain criteria to allow and not allow through.

The children demonstrated this through a game. In 2 teams, 2 firewalls were set up in the middle of the room. These firewall children were given a **secret algorithm**, an instruction to follow, for example, only allow through children with a 'w' in their name. The

rest of the children wrote, 'my name is...' and their full names on a post it note for the



firewalls to read, check and filter- allowing children through or discarding their information. Once fully filtered, the rest of the children had to work out what the algorithm was based on who was allowed through and who wasn't. We even played this with pictures! The children loved this interactive activity and fully immersed themselves in the purpose of it with enthusiasm and excellent contributions!



Well done Year 6!

Knowledgeable Magistrates Visit our Year 6

On Tuesday, the Year 6 received an informative talk from two magistrates from the Magistrates court in Chatham.



This began with a discussion about the variety of different rules we have in our society from home rules, to school laws, to laws with special focus on the different consequences we have when

we break the law for different crimes. This led to a video which showed the children the layout of a magistrates court including the people involved and the roles they play. Using this interesting video, the children created a role play where 'Andrea Pincher' (**Aimee**) committed the crime of stealing a mobile phone. This role play demonstrated the



actions which take place and the different people involved from the offender's family, particularly in youth offences, to the police to the bench of magistrates. Working together, using different scenarios that could happen, the children

decided on the consequences that Andrea Pincher should get. Unfortunately, whether she pleaded guilty or not guilty, the bench still gave her the consequence of a fine.



Year 6 loved this visit; not only was it enjoyable, it also gave the children some serious thoughts to consider about the actions they take in their lives, especially when they get older.



Well done Year 6 for your amazing listening and respectful behaviour, as well as your outstanding participation!



Respect & Remembrance

Our very own, **Mrs Margett**, one of our lovely School Cooks, contributed a staggering 1379 knitted poppies to the exhibition at the Royal Engineers Museum in Gillingham.



This was in addition to the 1,000 poppies Mrs Margett knitted last year.



We are extremely proud of Mrs

Margetts efforts towards this project which has captured the imagination of the local community.



Our whole school visited the exhibition last year and we highly recommend it. The exhibition is running until 21st December.

Twitter



Did you see our latest tweet @schoolbryony ?

A great piece of advice from [@natonlinesafety](#) for parents and carers. Seven conversation starters/questions to help talk to children about online safety. [#keepingchildrensafe](#) [#onlinesafety](#)

Year 1 News Computing

Year 1 have been learning how to use MS Word on the computer with **Mrs Caller** this term. They have discovered how to change font size and style, how to underline words, write in bold and italics and change their font colour. This week they made a LOST POSTER in class, which they are all excited to make on the computer next week.

KS1 Curriculum Meeting

Parents of Years 1 and 2 attended an informative KS1 curriculum meeting to learn about our long term and short term plans, events coming up and ideas for how parents and carers can best help support their child's learning. Handouts have been provided to parents unable to attend the meeting. We have received some extremely useful and positive feedback from this meeting and are very pleased with the way it was received by the parents. If you have any questions at all please let us know. **Mrs Dyne , Mrs Paice & Mrs Farnes**

Tapestry meeting

Early Years parents were invited to a presentation on the Tapestry Online Learning Journal. We also covered our phonics programme and advised on ways they can help support their child at home with their learning. We hope you found this useful. Feedback is always welcome! Thank you. Mrs Oliver



Lest We Forget - Year 2 Remembering the Soldiers

This week, Year 2 have been learning about World War 1 and why it is important to remember all the fallen. The children have written independently about why we wear poppies and have had a go at making their own!

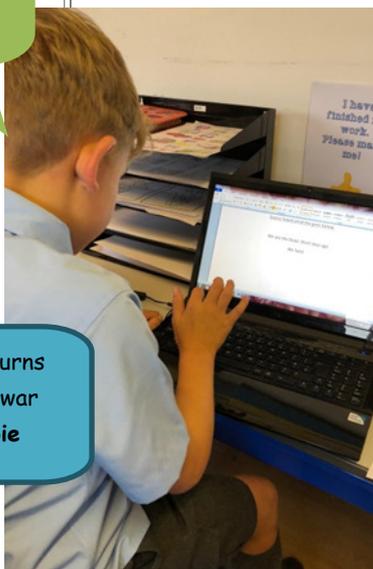
People wear poppies to remember the soldiers. - Bertie

They had pigeons in the war to send messages to other countries. - Caitlin

People stand quietly for 2 minutes on the 11th day, of the 11th month, on the 11th hour. This is to remember all the people who fought in the wars. - Nozithelo



We each took turns to type up the war poem. - Debbie



In ICT, the children typed up some of the famous war poem 'In Flanders Fields' and coloured poppies over the top to display in our classroom and hall. Here is what we have learnt this week:

Mrs Dyne

Remembrance Day is very important because the soldiers saved us. - Jadesola

We have war memorials with all the people's names on that helped in the war. - Katie

Invictus Games Athlete Visited Bryony Juniors



The Junior children had a fabulous morning with Invictus athlete Darran Challis who competed at the 2016 Games in Cycling and Swimming.

Darran sustained spinal, leg and pelvis injuries when he was on active duty in the Army after 26 years of service. The story of his courage and determination to succeed despite his injuries was inspirational. Darran is busy training for the Ironman distance competition. His motto is "Dream it, believe it, achieve it!"

Thank you to Darran for his time spent in our school. Thank you too to parents, family and friends of Bryony children who have sponsored the children so far. Funds raised go to **sportsforschools** which will help support GB and Irish Olympic, Paralympic and Invictus athletes and supplement P.E. equipment for our school.

All sponsorship is most welcome please! Our own event page can be accessed here:

<https://www.sportsforschools.org/event/me104/> We are really looking forward to the full report of Darran Challis' visit and pictures from our newly chosen **Sports Crew** in next weeks newsletter.

Cross Country League

Medway Primary Schools Cross Country League just before half term was the second of the Medway Primary schools cross country competitions held at Thamesview Primary School. **Ben**, Year 6 and **Stanley**, Year 5 both entered. In a field of 80, Stanley won the year 5 boys competition and **Ben** came 5th in the year 6 boys competition.

There are further runs scheduled for March to complete the series and we would like to wish the boys good luck in those. Well done to you both!



Early Years P.E. Course

Mrs Oliver and **Mrs Saroya** both attended an Early Years training course this week for Physical Education. The course gave them lots of new ideas for their future lessons. **Mrs Oliver** has also completed a course for her Early years development on Natural Curiosity.

Archery Club

Takes place on Thursdays from 3.45-4.45 p.m. at the Juniors. Spaces still available for children in Years 3-6. Please contact the school office if your child wants to join.



Bryony School Sports Crew

Eight children from Year 6 attended a training session to become our Sports Crew. Our newly trained reporters are busy writing a full report of this session which will be in the next newsletter.



MYG Basketball Team News

Mrs Atkins took a team of ten Year 6 children to take part in the Mini Youth Games Basketball competition. We are very proud to say that the team played superbly and finished 8th which means they follow the hockey team and have won a place in the night of champions.... Well done everyone!



Half Term Fun at the FoBs Halloween Disco



Here are some pictures from the Friends of Bryony School (FoBs) Halloween disco organised by Mrs Prenter and Mrs Notley. Thank you to everyone who came along. We would welcome volunteers please to help plan FoBs' next event —the school Christmas Fayre on Thursday 13th December at Marshall Road 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

Please contact FoBs by email friendsofbryonschool@gmail.com or via their Facebook page.