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Dear Parents,

November 2020

Despite the doom and gloom of the second lockdown, we hope you have all enjoyed the Autumn fun of Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night – we have loved hearing all about it from the children and of course we loved celebrating here. Our Spooky Week was fabulous, all of the children enjoyed the Halloween activities – we made potions, dressed up, carved pumpkins, did lots of Halloween arts and crafts and messy play, did Halloween baking and a special Wavy Davy Gymtots - a really fun week for everyone.



Oranges & Lemons then had a wonderful treat for Diwali as one of our parents runs Milap, who are specialists in Indian performing arts, festivals and events. They have partnered with Movema, a dance company that does fantastic dance outreach and performances, and they have collaborated to do children's workshops. The Oranges & Lemons children had a wonderful morning learning some Indian dancing. It was so lovely, and the children were so engaged that we are making enquiries to hopefully set up further sessions. I understand that both organisations have also prepared some online sessions if you wanted to access at home via www.milap.co.uk/ / www.movema.co.uk



A huge thank you for your generous donations for the Children in Need Pyjama Day – we all had a gorgeous day and enjoyed all of the extra cosy story time, and especially the chocolate biscuits, hot chocolate & marshmallows for break.



Points to Note

- Gemma has been in touch and says she will email you directly over the next week with the photos. So keep an eye on your emails for them, I know they will be gorgeous.
- I have had a few people asking about Christmas gifts for their child's keyperson / room. I'm afraid it is difficult to share out wine and chocolates equally, and it can seem unfair as Apples only have 3 keychildren whereas Orange & Lemons staff can have up to 10. So we always say that if you would like to give a gift then a small donation would be very much appreciated, that way we can share it out equally and everyone gets to have some money to buy themselves a Christmas treat. I hope that doesn't sound rude!
- You should all have received your child's Progress Report. The second page is for parents' comments and we would really appreciate it if you could write something and pass it back to the room. Again, if there is anything that you feel you would like to have a proper chat about then note on the sheet that you would like a telephone call and your key person will get back to you.

Upcoming Events

30th November – 4th December – Expressive Art & Design Week – the second of our EYFS Focus Weeks, this topic is about children developing their imagination in order to communicate and express their ideas and feelings in creative ways. We will be encouraging children to represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, lots of art work and experimenting with different media, music and dancing, role play and stories.

Friday 11 December: Christmas Jumper Day – as always we will all be wearing our Christmas Jumpers to support Save The Children.

Friday 18 December: Christmas Party – one of the best days of the year – dancing and a magic show with Wavy Davy, a special party tea and... if we're lucky... a visit from the Big Man himself....!!! If your child is not usually in on a Friday then please do bring them in at 2.00pm and collect them at 4.30pm. If you will be bringing your child in as an extra that day please let the room know asap so that Lydia knows numbers for the food order.

Tuesday 22 December: Christmas Dinner / Last Day – Lydia always does a delicious Christmas dinner for everyone on the last day.

Monday 4 January: Back to Nursery!

If I don't get around to doing another newsletter before Christmas – Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas full of magic and happiness with your gorgeous children.

Best wishes

Eve, Sue, Lydia, Noreen and all the staff at Monkton xxx

PS I hope you have all been enjoying receiving the photos – as you only receive the ones for your room here are some of our superstars over the last month!

