

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Every Friday morning Reception would normally have PRE (Philosophy, Religion and Ethics) with Mr Ananda. As we are learning from home, some activities have been set for children to continue their learning.

This half term, in line with our topic of Celebrations and Festivals, we have been focusing on the Diwali story for PRE and making connections to other faiths.

Week 1: Introduction to Diwali and the characters; this was linked to our celebrations and the Hindu faith.

Week 2: We explored the characters and worked as a class to describe them. Also, we made links to how Rama and Lakshman were brave and strong like warriors, like the Sikhs.

Week 3 (last week): We used role play to start acting out the Diwali story. We discussed how Rama, Sita and Lakshman were sent to the forest and led a simple life, very much like Buddha when he left his palace to live a peaceful life in the forest. We also explored how Buddha and Rama meditated for peace of mind and guidance.

Week 4 - 5 (this week) **We would like you to discuss how Hanuman and the monkey army showed devotion to Lord Rama and worked as a team to build the bridge to Lanka. There is an opportunity here to make links to how Muslims and other faiths show devotion to their God or religion. We will also make links to the story of Moses next week (Judaism).**

Here is a link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqfiwoWHMv4>



[Vanar Sena Build The Bridge - Ramayan - English](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqfiwoWHMv4)

The Ramayana is one of the great Hindu epics. It is ascribed to the Hindu sage Valmiki and forms an important part of the Hindu literature (smṛti), considered to be itihāsa. The Ramayana is one of the two great epics of Hinduism, the other being the Mahabharata. It depicts the duties of relationships, portraying ideal characters like the ...

www.youtube.com

This video should support your child with understanding how the bridge was built to cross the sea so that they could save Sita who was taken by Ravan.

Activities (you may choose one or more of the below activities; please try to do at least one with your child)

- 1- What did Hanuman write on the rocks? Can you use your phonics to write Rama/ Jai Shri Ram? Maybe you could try to write it on some rocks from your garden!**
- 2 - Can you build your own bridge out of blocks/ lego? As you build the bridge, imagine you are like Hanuman. What will your character be like? Brave or scared? How does Hanuman show love and devotion to Lord Rama?**
- 3 - You could draw the scene and try to label it or talk about what you have drawn.**

Please complete the activity by next Friday 4th December and upload this work on Tapestry.

Have fun and we look forward to seeing the children's work.

Miss Parmar and Mr Ananda