

Diwali

The Festival of Light



Our Learning

Today we will be learning all about a special festival called Diwali.

With your grown up, read through the information on the next few pages. There is a BBC video to watch too.

Then there are some art activities to complete.

I can't wait to see your work.



Facts About Diwali

Diwali is a Hindu festival and it is called a festival of light.

It marks the start of the new year for Hindus.

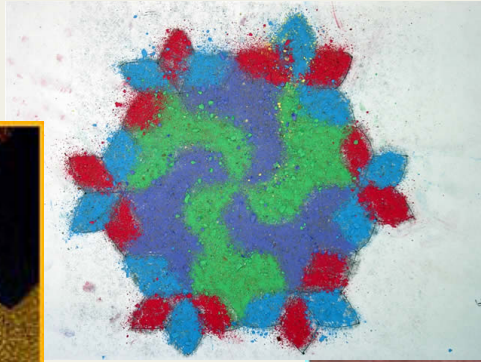
Diwali usually lasts for 5 days and this year it begins on November 12th

The festival is held in honour of the Goddess Lakshmi. Hindus believe this goddess brings them good luck in the coming year



What happens at Diwali?

Houses are cleaned and decorated with **Rangoli** patterns. The patterns are placed on door steps to welcome the Goddess Lakshmi



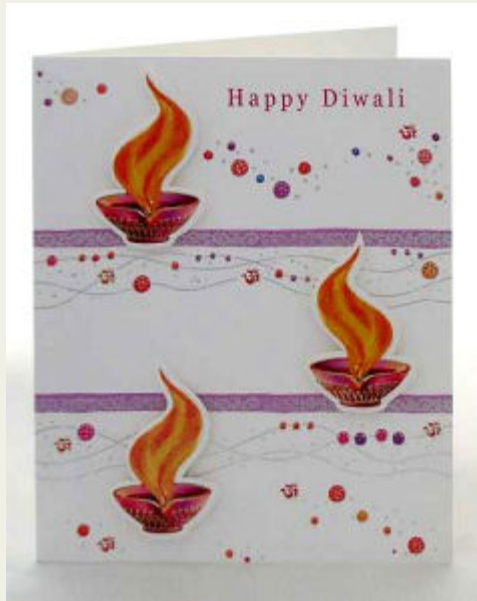
Small lamps are also lit all around the house called **diyas**. This is to make sure that Lakshmi can see the houses and visit them to bring good fortune to the family.



Small colourful foot prints are drawn on the floor in the houses to show Lakshmi's long awaited arrival to the family home.



Cards and small gifts are given out to family and friends. Hindu's often make special Diwali sweets called Barfi.



Goddess Lakshmi

Lakshmi is very important to Hindus

They pray that Lakshmi will visit their family and bring them luck and happiness

Lakshmi holds a lotus flower which represents beauty

The gold coins she has represent bringing wealth.

Lakshmi has four arms which represent the four goals in life as taught in the Hindu faith.

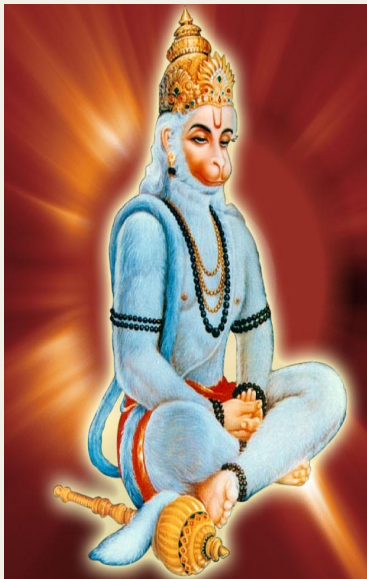
We will learn more about this later in the year.

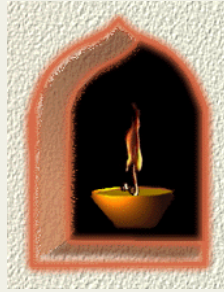


Rama and Sita

Diwali celebrates the return of Rama and Sita.
Watch this video to find out more

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRpNNF4fB4g>





The tradition of lighting diyas continues today and every year people remember this story by celebrating Diwali and lighting diyas inside their homes and fireworks outside.



Craft Instructions

Paper Plate Diva Lamp

Supplies

- PVA Glue
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- A small paper plate
- Coloured paper or card
- Glitter
- Acrylic jewels or sequins



1

First, paint one side of your paper plate.



2

When the plate is dry, fold it in half so that the paint and glitter can be seen on the outside. This should form the base of your diva lamp!



3

Next, cut a small semi-circle shape out of the middle of the folded part of the plate.



4

Now, make a candle for your diva lamp! To do this cut a rectangle shape out of some card. This should fit into the hole in the middle of the folded plate.



5

Use glue to stick the candle down inside the folded plate.



6

Then, cut a flame shape out of some yellow, orange or gold paper. A little glitter could be sprinkled on this too!



7

Stick the flame to the top of the candle and allow to dry.



8

Now decorate your paper plate diva lamp, perhaps by sticking some jewels or sequins on using PVA glue.



9

To finish add a little bit of glitter to create some sparkle and stand your finished diva lamp on a table or shelf to celebrate Diwali!

Your Task 1:

Have a go at making a diva lamp. If you haven't got a paper plate you can just use paper or card - draw around a small plate for your circle.

If you haven't got paints, you can use crayons, pencil crayons or felt tips.

You can just draw the decorations – or use anything you have in the house that your grown up says you can use.

Your Task 2:

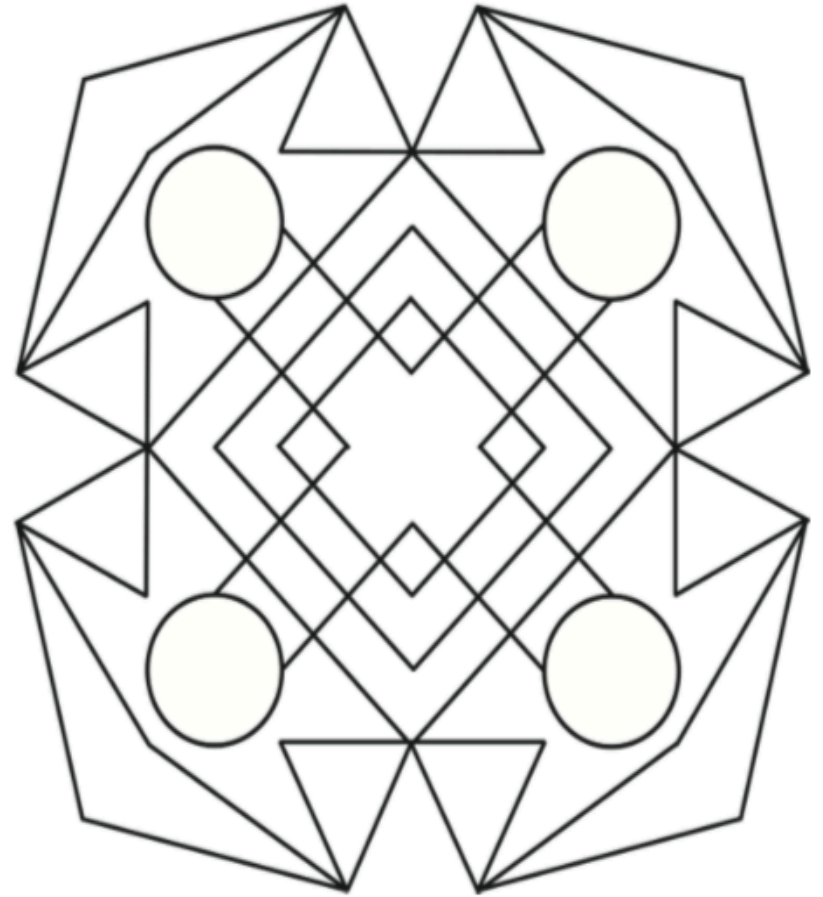
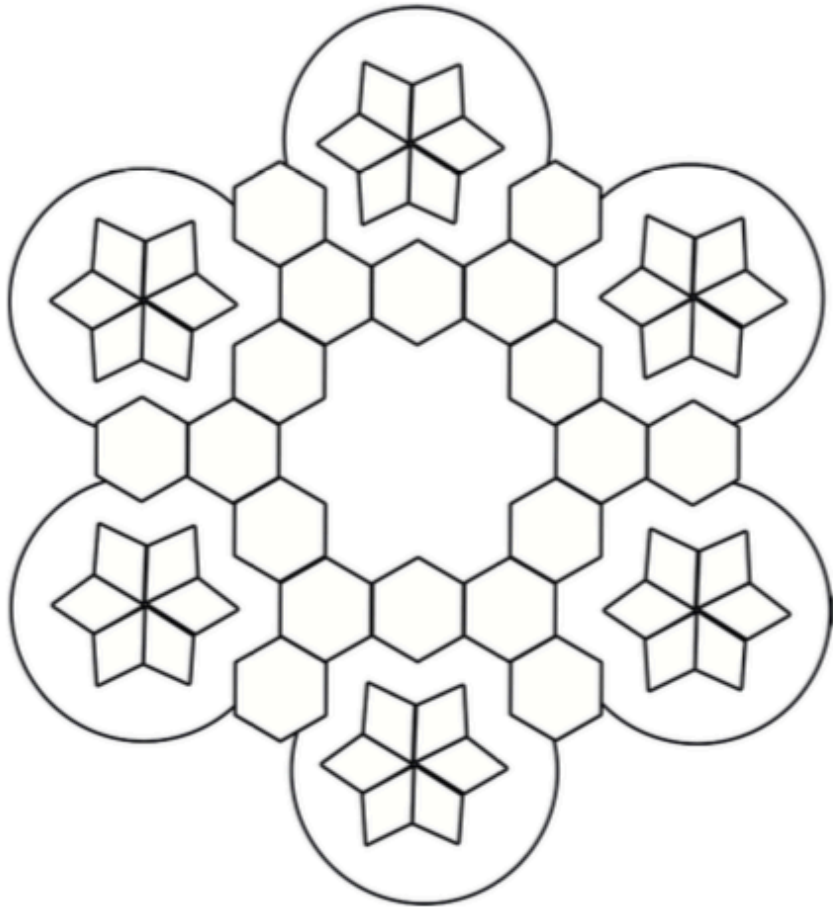
Draw around your foot and decorate it in bright colours. Look at some of the patterns on page 6 to give you some ideas.



Challenge:

Why don't you create a **Rangoli** pattern? There's a template on the next page for you to colour or you could make your own. If it's dry, you could go outside and use leaves or stones – **always check with your grown up first.**





Thank you for all your hard work today.

Please send photos of your diva lamp and footprints to me at

year2@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk

I can't wait to see all your fantastic work.

