

In the first week of November we celebrated cultural week where we had the opportunity of learning many new interesting things. We had a chance to learn how to do bhangra dancing, play the African drums, play the steel pans, Chinese New Year Dragon dancing and lots of art activities.

During cultural week reception had a fantastic time learning all about Diwali. The story of Rama and Sita was read and they looked at how good wins over evil. They looked at what special food is eaten and how Diwali is celebrated. In art they made and decorated divas. They looked amazing, were very bright and colourful.

Year 1 dived into cultural week with a fantastic range of activities. We started by briefly looking at the African culture through the story of 'Handa's Surprise'. We tasted a range of fruits from the story before writing a list poem using all the remarkable adjectives that they had identified through the fruit tasting.

In the afternoons we had the most fun as we have learnt all about bonfire night and why we celebrate it. We had real-life experiences of making our own fireworks in the schools very own imagination studio and completed a range of art activities.

Year 2 looked at the importance of Eid and how it marks the end of Ramadan when food and gifts are shared with family and friends. People wish each other Eid Mubarak (blessed Eid.) The new moon is eagerly awaited while houses are cleaned and decorated and new clothes are worn in celebration.

In class the children were learning about poetry and wrote poems about the meaning of Eid and how it is celebrated. These were shared during assembly.

Vasakhi was the topic for Year 3. They looked at the Sikh religion and its main identity through the 5K's. The story behind Vaisakhi was read and the introduction of Kaur and Singh was added to Sikh names. Vasakhi is also an ancient harvest festival and the beginning of the New Year for all Sikhs. Bhangra dancing is also part of the celebration and year 3 were lucky enough to learn a dance which they performed as part of their assembly.

In Year 4 Aboriginal art was the topic. They looked at artwork and the images created. The history of the culture was researched and they created their own artwork and dancing where they explained what each move and sound meant.

In the hall they had a lesson on African drums where they learnt the names and a little of the history of what they were made from and where they come from. All the children had a chance to play the drums and composed their own music. It sounded astounding with all the different beats and rhythm of all the drums.

Year 5 looked at Anansi stories they listened to many of the stories and retold them orally. Each group read, acted out and unpicked each story to find the moral behind them. Then each group rewrote their own version of an Anansi story keeping the moral the same but changing the characters and the settings.

They also learnt about African drums, the names, where they were from and how to play them. The whole class played an amazing tune, which filled the hall with remarkable sounds.

Year 6 learnt about the Chinese New Year. The animals, meanings behind each animal and how it is celebrated. They also painted a

Chinese plate and were lucky enough to learn a Chinese New Year Dragon Dance, which they fantastically performed for the rest of the school in assembly. To end the week they read and wrote wishes for a friend to put in their fortune cookie.