



HARMONY
Primary School

HARMONY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1
FEB. 24



Israa' wal Mi'raaj

This spring term, we commemorated the event of Al-Israa' wal-Mi'raaj with a series of enlightening assemblies and special lessons. These illuminating sessions described the miraculous night journey of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ from Makkah to Jerusalem, and his ascension from Masjid-ul-Aqsa through the seven skies and beyond, that all occurred within one-third of the night.

Our students grasped the profound significance of this event as they learned about this special occasion. Such events help deepen their understanding and connection to the Islamic faith through nurturing their love for the Prophet ﷺ and fostering unity and understanding within our school community.

The miracle of Al-Isra' is confirmed in the Qur'an. In Surat al-Isra', Ayah 1, Allah revealed:

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِّنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا
الَّذِي بَرَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

Praise be to Allah Who enabled His slave, Muhammad, to make the journey at night from Masjid al-Haram in Makkah to Masjid al-Aqsa in Jerusalem, which is surrounded by a blessed land.



YEAR 1 VISITS HARROW CENTRAL MOSQUE: LEARNING ABOUT ISLAM

We are delighted to share with you the enriching experience our Year 1 students had during their recent visit to Harrow Mosque, as part of our efforts for our students to better understand Islamic traditions, practices and manners.

Our main focus for this trip was to instil a deeper understanding of the commitment and devotion embedded in Islamic traditions, with particular emphasis on the five obligatory prayers. Our Prophet, peace be upon him, said:

خَمْسُ صَلَوَاتٍ كَتَبَهُنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْعِبَادِ

which means "Allah made 5 prayers obligatory upon the believers". As they witnessed first-hand the dedication local community members had devoted to the congregational prayer, we took this opportunity to expand their knowledge of it.

One way in which this was achieved, was through practical examples of locating the Qiblah using a compass, ensuring our students are equipped to pray in their daily lives in new localities. This was an excellent cross-curricular activity that linked to

previous science lessons about how a compass is also used to identify wind direction.

Year 1 focused on the features within a mosque, which instilled a growing love for the focal Islamic place of worship. This equipped us with the chance to speak about the significance of a mosque as a local landmark, which connected well with the 'Bright Lights, Big City' topic that they are learning about in English this term.

Our ethos at Harmony Primary School is to imbue our students with a firm and progressive Islamic culture, by following in the footsteps of our beloved Prophet Muhammad. We believe that these experiences have been key in cultivating an inspiring learning experience rooted in our Islamic ethos.





MONEY MATTERS

Having consolidated prior learning in addition and subtraction based on the principles of place value, this term, Year 2 turned their attention to the application of mathematics in everyday life through the ever-popular topic of money.

Plenty of careful guidance, support and 'hands-on' learning opportunities were planned. The students handled real-life resources ranging from a penny to a £50 note, with all the denominations in between.

They were able to master new and efficient strategies, by following small simple steps and using real money to work and discuss different possibilities for the correct answers.

They were also guided to begin to recognise some similarities and differences between place value and money-based addition and subtraction.

These interactive experiences at Key Stage One, help to pave the way to tackle the more intricate and complex maths challenges that await in Key Stage Two and beyond.

Exploring Nature's Beauty

Year 3 have been embarking on some wonderful adventures and discoveries this term, as the students participated in a captivating exploration of nature's beauty.

The excited young learners were immersed in the theme of nature and its breathtaking wonders. From the towering cliffs to the gentle streambeds, they delved deep into the intricate beauty of our natural world.

A highlight of the term was the students' deep dive into the world of rocks. Through exciting expeditions and hands-on experiments, they explored the natural formations and properties of rocks, unravelling the stories hidden within these ancient wonders. They didn't just observe from a distance; they got hands-on. Through interactive learning experiences, they learned to distinguish the differences between igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks, fostering a deeper understanding of geological processes. Guided by curiosity, Year 3 embraced every moment of their journey, gaining a newfound appreciation for natural phenomena.

As we look forward to the upcoming term, Year 3 reflect on the enriching journeys of exploration and discovery of the previous term. We intend to continue building on Year 3's curiosity and passion for learning as they prepare for entry into Year 4.

Types of Rocks

**Igneous
rocks**



**Sedimentary
rocks**



**Metamorphic
rocks**



YEAR 4 RAINFOREST ADVENTURE: EXPLORING ECOSYSTEMS AT KEW GARDENS



This term, Year 4 has been delving into the enchanting world of rainforests and ecosystems. Among the highlights of our exploration was the recent educational visit to Kew Gardens, where our students immersed themselves in a living classroom surrounded by the wonders of nature. During the trip to Kew Gardens, our Year 4 students embarked on a truly memorable trip in the city's botanical retreat. The day was filled with awe-inspiring moments as students wandered through lush

greenery, encountering the diverse plant life on display and learning about the importance of biodiversity.

We are immensely proud of the enthusiasm and curiosity our Year 4 students have shown throughout their rainforest and ecosystem exploration, especially during the transformative visit to Kew Gardens. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing their passion for learning and environmental stewardship.

Year 5 Connects with Nature Through Art

This half term, year 5 has enthusiastically delved into the world of land art through their exciting project "Nature's Art." This project aims to introduce children to the genre of land art, while also fostering a deep appreciation for the beauty of the natural world. Through immersive outdoor sessions, the children engaged in sketching natural forms, keenly observing the intricate details of their surroundings, and exploring the sculptural potential of various elements found in nature. These experiences not only honed their observation skills but also broadened their artistic repertoire, cultivating a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them.

The students eagerly embraced the challenge of crafting captivating land art installations using natural materials. From artfully arranging colourful leaves to skillfully stacking smooth stones, each child contributed their unique vision to the collaborative process, while gaining invaluable insights in teamwork and cooperation.

This project not only provided a creative outlet but also served as a bridge for the students to forge a deeper connection with nature. We learnt to better appreciate some of the many creations of Allah and took this as an opportunity to reflect on the world around us in a thoughtful and reflective manner.



Shackleton's Journey

This half term, Year 6 have been learning about the Antarctic explorer Ernest Shackleton and his attempt to become the first to complete a transcontinental journey across the South Pole. Though Shackleton did not achieve his intended goal, the students used his experiences to learn more about survival skills and the power of endurance.



Students took on roles of crew members for an expedition team and researched Shackleton's crew's experiences in order to understand their motivations and processes. At the same time, students delved into geography, studying the polar regions, comparing populations and animals in both the North and South Poles, enriching their understanding of Shackleton's journey.

In English, non-chronological reports were being explored as a text type, and pupils confidently identified key features across multiple texts, finally showcasing this knowledge by crafting reports on travelling to the polar regions. Additionally, Year 6 discovered art pieces from the Inuit culture, which added to the cross-curricular links within this unit.