



HARMONY
Primary School

HARMONY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1
SEP. 24

Mawlid

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

Surat Al Anbiya, verse 21



Congratulations on behalf of all the staff at Harmony Primary School to our KS2 students who recently took part in the blessed commemoration of the birth of the Prophet, peace be upon him. It was a truly inspiring event, showcasing the talent and dedication of our young students.

With confidence and exuberance, our students filled the venue with their melodious voices as they sang the whole-school nasheed and recited verses from the Holy Quran. Performing in front of an audience of over 700 attendees was a new opportunity for them to showcase their talents to the wider community and we are immensely proud of their poise and commitment at this special event.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of all the parents and families who joined us to celebrate this most memorable occasion; your support and participation made the event even more special. The warmth and enthusiasm of the audience were apparent from the onset of the evening's performances, reinforcing the vital role that Harmony Primary School plays in our wider community. Together, we shine brightly, spreading the word of peace and tranquillity through the remembrance of our Creator and the gratitude we have for Him sending the best of mankind, the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, to convey the message of Islam.

As we look back on this wonderful day, let us carry forward the unity and harmony that it represents. We are excited for the future and the many more opportunities for our students to shine!

HARMONY PRIMARY SCHOOL'S GARDEN PARTY

Thank you to all our students, parents and guests who participated in Harmony Primary School's Garden Party this past Saturday. The atmosphere was, as always, relaxed and inviting and the school playground was soon filled with laughter, joy, and a genuine sense of community among those who had gathered to raise funds for the school.

We were truly spoiled for choice with the delightful array of mouthwatering treats and refreshing drinks on offer. From scrumptious baked goods to savoury snacks, there was something for everyone to enjoy. It was so pleasing to see families and friends alike come together to celebrate, share stories, and create lasting memories.

Thanks to your generous contributions, masha'Allah, we raised an astounding £1151.78! This fantastic achievement would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our students, staff and parents who played an integral part in making this event, once again, a resounding success.

As we reflect on this delightful gathering, we eagerly anticipate more opportunities to come together in the future. Each event strengthens our bonds and fosters a sense of unity that makes Harmony Primary School such a special place to be.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. May Allah reward you all abundantly!



The Snail and the Whale



To enhance their reading skills, this half term Year 1 have been reading 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. In this book, a snail meets a humpback whale and together they venture off on a thrilling ocean journey, encountering some challenges along the way. Upon reading the first page, the children were eager to carry on and experience the adventures with the snail and the whale.

To build on prior knowledge, we integrated guided reading with other subjects, such as English, Art and PSHE. This gave the students a chance to explore similar themes from different perspectives and participate in engaging hands-on activities.

Through their learning, the children had the opportunity to identify verbs and rhyming words and learnt how to discuss a wide range of emotions. During Art, the students depicted a large model of the Snail and the Whale by using different colours of paint, in order to convey nuances in the weather and mood in the image. On another occasion, the children completed a 'Make Your Own Whale' activity, where they produced their own humpback whale using only A4 paper, scissors and a blue colour pencil. We decided to display selected pieces in our classroom, to further inspire and motivate the children.

From the Depths of the Ocean to the Palm of our Hands

This term, Year 2 have been diving into the world of octopuses, learning about their external anatomy and unique adaptations. Through their study, they discovered how different parts of an octopus, such as its arms, mantle, and syphon, help it survive in the ocean. Topics of discussion have ranged from observing how an octopus uses its suckers for grasping to understanding its incredible ability to camouflage by changing the colour and texture of its skin. The students compared these adaptations to those of humans and other animals, enriching their understanding of the natural world around them.

Year 2 embraced the challenge of learning new scientific vocabulary, including terms like syphon, mantle and jet propulsion. They studied how the octopus moves by the wondrous process of jet propulsion whereby water is taken in through the muscular sac and expelled through its syphon. The students were even given an opportunity to examine an octopus's beak up close. The students' enthusiasm was evident as they uncovered the many defence mechanisms an octopus has as part of its arsenal, such as releasing ink to escape predators.

This hands-on exploration not only deepened their knowledge of marine life but also inspired curiosity and engagement in the science classroom. Year 2's journey into the study of octopuses has demonstrated how learning about nature can be both educational and enjoyable.





Eat Well, Keep Active, Feel Great!

This term, our Year 3 students embarked on an enlightening study of how a balanced diet contributes to building and maintaining a strong, healthy skeleton. Through engaging lessons and collaborative study tasks, they explored the different food groups— including proteins, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals—and learned how each plays a vital role in supporting the various bodily functions, from energy consumption to bone growth.

In addition to understanding the impact of a nutritious diet, students also developed their knowledge of the human body by learning to identify and name key bones within the skeletal framework, including the cranium, humerus and femur, to name a few. Through hands-on activities and discussions, they gained a deeper appreciation for how diet and the skeletal system work together to keep us active and healthy.



Lava Lamp Experiment

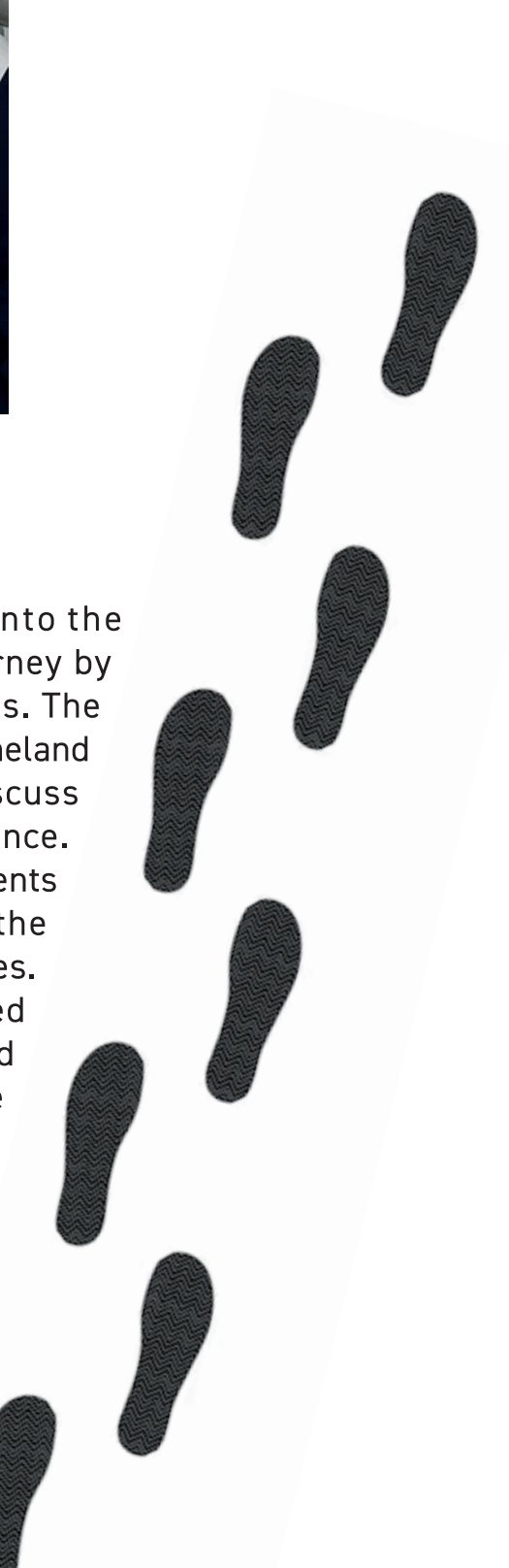


In Year 4 Science, students have been exploring the properties of different materials and one popular experiment we recently conducted occurred by making a lava lamp to demonstrate that not all liquids are runny.

During this experiment, Year 4 students used oil, water, food colouring, and an effervescent tablet to make their lava lamps. They have learnt that, as oil is less dense than water, it floats to the top and thus the two liquids do not mix. The students also learnt that dropping an effervescent tablet in the mix (which releases carbon dioxide gas as it dissolves) has a rather surprising effect on the different components of the lamp. This experiment visually illustrates the concept that liquids like oil can be thick and viscous, unlike water, which flows freely. This practical application of scientific concepts helped the students understand the idea of viscosity in a fun, hands-on way, highlighting differences in how liquids behave and flow when combined.

The Year 4 students thoroughly enjoyed the lava lamp experiment and they were amazed by how the oil and water moved differently, creating colourful bubbling effects that are aesthetically appealing for either a free-standing lamp for a bedroom or focal point for a living room corner.

Keep on experimenting, Year 4!



The Journey So Far..

This half term, our Year 5 class has been diving into the beautifully-illustrated and powerful tale of *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna during our guided reading sessions. The book tells the moving tale of a family fleeing their homeland in search of safety, offering an accessible way to discuss complex themes such as migration, hope, and resilience. Our discussions have been rich and fruitful, with students sharing their thoughts on the challenges faced by the family and making connections to current global issues. Through these sessions, the children have developed their skills of empathy, making inferences and comprehension as we explored both the text and the stunning illustrations. We have been asking important questions like, "What would you take with you if you had to leave your home?" and "How do the colours in the book reflect the family's emotions?" These sessions have sparked deep, thoughtful-provoking conversations on current topics of great importance and the class is looking forward to writing their own stories inspired by the themes of *The Journey* in the coming weeks.

Exploring blood and the circulatory system!



In Year 6 Science this term, we have been studying the fascinating unit entitled 'Blood Heart'. As part of our learning, we conducted a practical experiment where we constructed a model of blood using different liquids to represent its various components. By layering milk, syrup, and vegetable oil, we demonstrated the primary elements of blood: plasma, white blood cells, platelets, and red blood cells.

Through this experiment, we observed how these normally mixed components could be separated, as might be done by a centrifuge. The heavier elements, like red blood cells, settle at the bottom, while lighter ones, such as plasma, float to the top. Each component plays a crucial role in the body.

To further enhance our understanding, we also reviewed scientific reports on how these components function, including how scabs form to heal wounds. This engaging lesson gave us a deeper appreciation for the essential role blood plays in maintaining our health.

In addition to our experiments, Year 6 excelled in creating non-chronological reports focused on the captivating subject of the heart. Through thorough research, students identified key information about the heart's anatomy, its functions, and vital role in the human body. As we continue to explore the topic of the heart, we look forward to uncovering even more insights and knowledge about this most critical organ; the Ameer of the other organs.