



HARMONY
Primary School

HARMONY NEWSLETTER

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Ramadan at Harmony Primary School

As the illuminated month of Ramadan draws near, our hearts swell with anticipation and gratitude for the blessings it brings. Ramadan isn't merely a period of abstaining from food and drink; it's a profound journey of spiritual renewal and reflection. We are immensely proud of our students who exhibit remarkable resilience and strength as they embark on their fasting journey, encouraging and supporting one another along the way. Their unwavering dedication to their faith inspires us all. Throughout this sacred time, our school community embraces the values of compassion, empathy, and unity, fostering an environment where every child feels cherished and encouraged to grow spiritually. As we gather in prayer and contemplation, let us cherish the bonds of friendship and faith that unite us, and may this Ramadan be a source of immense blessings and spiritual growth for us all.

Ramadan Mubarak!



MULTICULTURAL FOOD FESTIVAL

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the students, parents, and guests who honoured us with their presence at our annual Multicultural Food Festival. The radiant sunshine provided a beautiful backdrop for our culinary voyage around the world. From traditional British scones to exotic waraq ^eneb, there was plenty on offer to suit the different palates and preferences. Flavourful samosas, zesty chana chaat, and fragrant biriani rice with chicken were among the vast array of delicacies that ignited conversations about cultural diversity and

appreciation.

As we indulged in these delectable treats, we also welcomed the advent of Ramadan, embracing the commencement of this sacred month with a profound sense of unity. It is truly heartwarming to partake in such moments of celebration and introspection as a community.

The remarkable generosity and support demonstrated by all attendees culminated in an impressive fundraising total of £1065.61 for Harmony Primary School, masha'Allah.



Ramadan
Kareem

Our First Harmony Ramadan

Throughout this half-term term, year one students have been learning about the special merits of Ramadan, embracing its significance in the modern era and recognising the spiritual awakening it brings to our lives as an invaluable opportunity for growth and increased good deeds. With a focus on the five pillars of Islam—belief, prayer, fasting, paying Zakat, and performing Hajj—students explored the core principles of our faith, deepening their understanding of Islamic knowledge.

Students adorned their classroom with vibrant Ramadan decorations, celebrating their love for this special month. Through hands-on activities centred on the five pillars of Islam, they not only learned about the importance of these foundations but also learned about the integrals of prayer and fasting. Amongst the highlights this term were making 3D Ka'bah models and personalised pop-up Ramadan letters. Pairing their knowledge of religious teachings with the application of Muslim manners, Year One embraced the spirit of Ramadan, fostering a sense of community and empathy among one another.

Year 3 Embarks on a Mathematical Adventure

This term, Year 3 students have embarked on an exciting journey in mathematics. They are mastering mental maths skills, particularly focusing on understanding and applying their times tables. Additionally, they are extending their knowledge of fractions and learning to use them in practical, everyday situations. Alongside this journey, they are also developing their metacognitive skills, learning to reflect on and evaluate their own thinking processes to become more effective learners.

Year 3 have been diligently practising their mental maths skills, confidently memorising times tables up to 12. By focusing on this important milestone, they have enjoyed competing with one another as they try to quickly recall their times tables. Through this process, they have enhanced their fluency as well as their confidence, particularly in mathematical challenges.

As the journey continues, year 3 delve deeper into their mathematical journey, exploring and understanding fractions. They have become adept in understanding concepts such as dividing a pizza into equal parts, discussing how each slice represents a fraction of a whole. Through these hands-on activities, they are strengthening their learning of fractions in a fun way.

Year 3 have also been reflecting on their problem-solving strategies and they are becoming more aware of cognitive processes. By doing so, they develop strong strategies for problem solving and this in turn helps them become independent learners. By setting ambitious goals, they can work on and monitor their progress over time. They are able to identify and assess areas where they need additional support to achieve specific goals. By observing peers and seeking guidance from their teachers, they adapt their approaches, using visual models and concrete examples to deepen their understanding. By taking all these approaches into consideration, they can apply what they have learned and aim to exceed their targets.

The year 3 students should be incredibly proud of the progress they have made. As they continue to explore and engage with mathematical concepts, we look forward to seeing their confidence and skills continue to grow.

Budding Horticulturalists

This spring, our Year 4 students at Harmony Primary School embarked on a special project to plant daffodils in the school garden. The project was part of their science curriculum, with a particular focus on the explorations of ecosystems and habitats.

Daffodils provide food for pollinators like bees and butterflies, which are essential for plant reproduction. They also add beauty to the local environment and can attract beneficial insects that help control pests. Additionally, daffodils can help improve soil health by adding organic matter as they decompose.

The students were excited to participate in learning about the process of planting daffodil bulbs and watching them grow into beautiful flowers. In so doing, they not only learnt about the natural world around them but also contributed to the conservation of the local ecosystem. They worked together to prepare the soil, dig holes and carefully place the bulbs in the soil. They also learned about the importance of sunlight, water and nutrients for the plants to thrive.

After weeks of anticipation, the daffodils bloomed in a riot of yellow, white and orange. The students were filled with a sense of pride and accomplishment as they admired the flowers in full bloom.

The daffodil-planting project not only taught the students about plant life cycles and gardening but also instilled in them a sense of responsibility and stewardship for the natural world. It was a memorable experience that we hope they will cherish and remember fondly as they continue their journey of learning and discovery in horticulture.

Mysterious Traveller



Throughout both English and Guided Reading sessions this term, Year 5 students have immersed themselves in the captivating narrative and vivid illustrations of Mal Peet's 'The Mysterious Traveller'. Inspired by a true story, the book transports readers to the deserts of Africa in an era where camel caravans carrying salt and gold wind their way through the rugged terrain of Timbuktu, guided by skilled navigators. Among them is Issa, the most renowned guide, who tragically loses his sight, leaving a young girl raised as his own, to navigate the desert landscape using only her words to guide the travellers in her grandfather's stead.

The richly descriptive language employed throughout the book has not only expanded the students' vocabulary but also honed their inference skills as they analyse the author's deliberate word choices for deeper meanings. Additionally, the intricate illustrations have sparked creativity among the young readers, inspiring them to craft their own figurative compositions and artworks.

Moreover, 'The Mysterious Traveller' serves as a reminder for our students to be grateful for the endowments we possess. Through Issa's struggles, students have reflected on the significance of sight in their lives. This exploration has fostered empathy and appreciation for the gifts we are so blessed to have.

A faded, grayscale portrait of Michael Faraday, an elderly man with white hair and a beard, wearing a dark suit and a white cravat. The portrait is the background for the text.

Faraday's Spark Ignites Year 6's Curiosity

This term, our Year 6 were thrilled to embark on an exciting adventure to visit the Royal Institution. The trip was an opportunity for Year 6 to delve into the captivating world of electricity and discover the legacy of one of its greatest pioneers, Michael Faraday.

During the visit, students learned about Faraday's life and work, starting from his early attempts to produce optical glass from which they saw offcuts from the 215 separate glass ingots he created, noting that many were not even transparent, rendering them useless for their intended purpose and underlining yet again the great perseverance which Faraday exhibited throughout his career.

Year Six also discovered Faraday's revolutionary insights into electromagnetism and electromagnetic induction which led to the discovery of fundamental principles that underpin generators and transformers, now essential components of our power systems.

Moreover, visiting the Faraday Museum provided students with valuable historical context, allowing them to understand the progression of scientific thought and the impact of Faraday's discoveries on our modern world. They came away with a deeper appreciation for his contributions to the field of electricity and the practical applications that have shaped the modern world, from powering homes to driving forward technological innovations.