

20th June 2025

Dear Parents,

This has been a very busy week indeed! This week in maths, we have worked on translation and reflection with coordinates. We then moved on to adding and subtracting decimals. In English, we finished reading "Kensuke's Kingdom" and answered questions about the text. Our final written task was to write a detailed newspaper report about the events.

On Wednesday, many children from Year 5 represented the school really well when they spoke to the SIAMS inspector. Our RE lesson focused on the fifth Pillar of Islam – Hajj. Here is a summary of the lesson.

<u>Hajj</u>

Once in their lifetime, Muslims go on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Mecca is the place where the Islamic religion started. It is where the Prophet Muhammad was born and received the first revelations from Allah. This is only compulsory once Muslims have enough money and if they can provide for their families while they are away.

Where is the works would you not like to go?



The children thought about where in the world they would most like to go and why

<u>The Hajj - The kab'ah</u>

The kab'ah is the stone building at the centre of Islam's most important mosque. It is considered to be the holiest place. Muslims walk seven times anti-clockwise around the kab'ah. It demonstrates that all Muslims, regardless of their background or social status, are equal before

God. Circling the Kaaba counter clockwise is a form of submission to God's will and a demonstration of devotion.

The Hills of Safa and Marwah.

Next, Muslims walk or run seven times between the hills of Safa and Marwah.



<u>The Jamarat</u>

The Jamarat are three stone pillars in the Mina valley that represent the devil – Muslims throw stones at the pillars to reject evil and drive it from the world.

After this, The Muslims return to Mecca to walk around the kab'ah once again.



<u>The Plain of Arafat</u>

The Prophet Muhammad gave his last sermon on the Plain of Arafat. Here, Muslims pray to ask Allah to forgive them for past sins.





The children thought about things that they would like to drive from the world to make it a better place. They wrote them on pieces of paper and, as a symbolic gesture, they shredded them. Important reminder!

Next week, on Wednesday 25th June at 7pm, we will be holding a meeting for parents in the Year 5 classroom. During the meeting, Mrs Holditch and I will share lots of important information about the PESE (11+) tests, applying for secondary school places and lots of information about Year 6. I hope you will all be able to join us.

Today, we had great fun doing the Race Across Leybourne and the children did their bit for the community during the race, by litter-picking at the 'bomb hole'. We hope to raise lots of money in sponsorship.

Best wishes,

Louise Grinstead