

THE LIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF NOOR UL ISLAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN 2 | DECEMBER 2023, JUMADA AL-AKHIRAH 1445



Important Dates

INSET DAY School Closed
PSHE IIm2Amal launch
Mon 8 January 2024

School Open for children
Tue 9 January 2024

PTFA Evening High Tea
Sat 20 January 2024

Coffee Afternoon
Wed 24 January 2024,
3:00pm

End of 1st half of spring term
9 February 2024

*See Learning plans and
Jummah Notice for other
updates*



My School. My Community.

We are at the end of a wonderful term at Noor ul Islam Primary School. It is the sense of ukhuwwah or faith-based bond amongst our community of learners and stakeholders that hold us together. Shukran and thanks to you, our parents/carers, for working with us to support our children, especially abiding by our communication protocols.

The hard work of our staff team is evident, they really do go above and beyond to ensure that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and learn. Our key highlights this term:

1. Bringing a sense of joy into both teaching and learning through focus on staff development and value-based approach to behaviour and personal development
2. A diverse range of learning activities: workshops on anti-bullying to seerah session visits by guests to a whole host of trips.
3. Fantastic winter performances to share and celebrate through singing of nasheeds in a variety of languages

Sadly, we bid farewell to brother Gul Rawat Hussain – our long standing premises manager. He has truly been a dedicated member of the school and his presence will be greatly missed. Alhamdulillah we have a new caretaker, brother Jamal, who has joined in the last week of this term. Ustaadh Monsurur Rahman, Islamic Studies teacher, will be leaving at the end of this term as Ustaadh Eshan returns in January.

I am excited especially about next term as we introduce our new PSHE curriculum, designed to meet our mission of developing *Islamic character*. I will be spending some time with governors focused on budget planning for 2024/25 in January. We have to begin to think about how we can deal with rise in costs for schools. Our aim is to protect what our children need to succeed in school. We will keep you informed in advance if there are any changes.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and the glimpse into the experiences we have the privilege to share each day. We wish you a happy and restful winter break and look forward to the new term ahead insha Allah.



Hussain Shefaar,
Headteacher



RECEPTION~EYFS

This term Reception visited the [Sea Life Aquarium](#).

Under the Sea

As part of our Under The Sea topic, Reception have been making under the sea creatures. We have been learning facts about different animals such as Octopuses, seahorses, sharks, crabs and many more!

Fact.

An Octopus has 3 hearts!



Reception have learnt that a group of dolphins is called a "school". How cool!

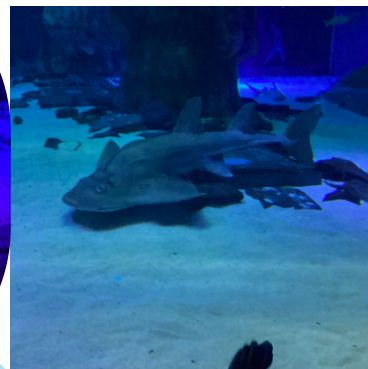


Sea Life Aquarium



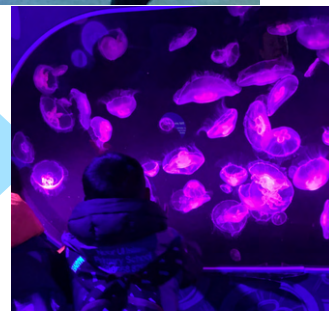
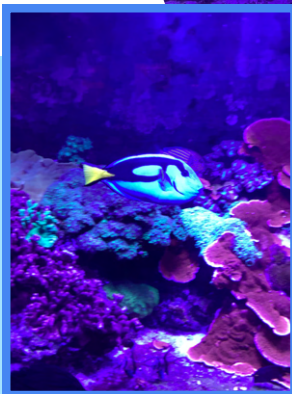
Meet Boris the Sea turtle

Sea turtles feed on crabs, sponges and jellyfish when they are young. However as adults they become herbivorous



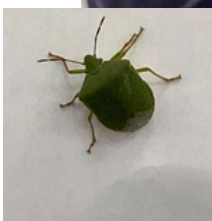
Did you know?

Coral reefs might look like a rock or plant but it is actually a type of animal!



Islamic Studies

We had a little green insect visit our classroom. One of our children stood so bravely when the insect flew onto him crawling up his clothes! This was an amazing opportunity to talk about Allah's creation.



Reading surahs as a class
Reception practicing reciting with madd by counting the length of the sound on their fingers.

YEAR 1

DISCOVER STORY CENTRE

This feels squishy



We travelled to space!



The mountains were very high



V&A MUSEUM

We designed our own board games!



Helloooo?!

We made patterns in the sand



It too LOUD!



This is AMAZING!



Lets make the tallest tower!



Yes! Welcome to my new game!

Can I play?



So many toys!



We learned
and
performed a
nasheed in
Spanish.

Hola!

LOOK AT OUR AMAZING ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES



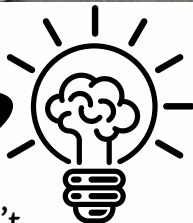
Are alligators solitary?



Alligators are solitary creatures.
This means that they are happy to
be by themselves.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

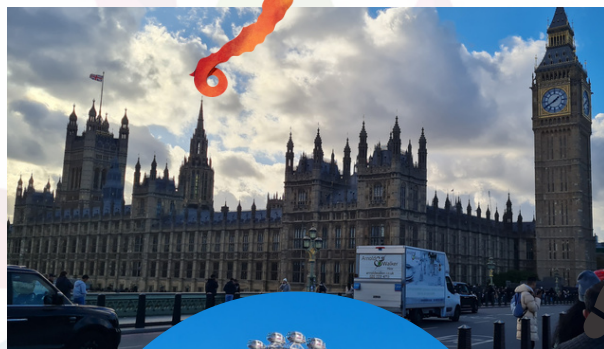


Sharks don't
actually like the
taste of humans.
They only attack if
they feel
threatened.

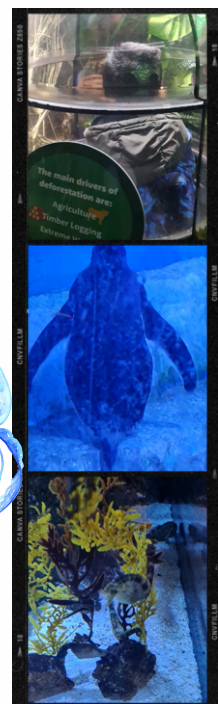
INTERESTING FACT

DISTRICT

ON
THE
WAY
WE
SAW

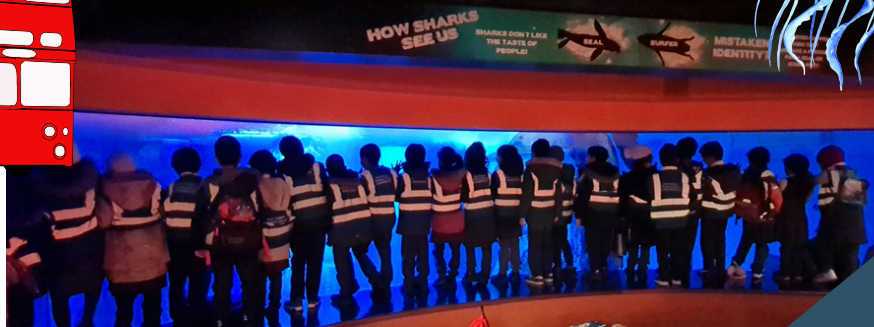
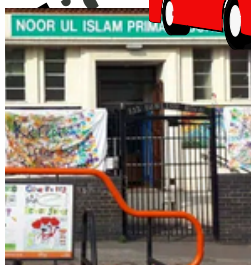


We went to the Sea Life London and
explored all the animals and plants that
live in the water.



CENTRAL

UNDERGROUND



YEAR 3

London Zoo

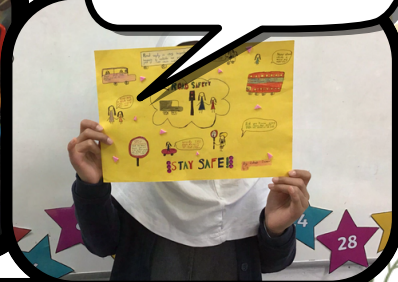
WE SAW THE DIFFERENT ANIMALS, AND LEARNED ABOUT THEIR HABITATS AND CAUSE OF ENDANGERMENT.



This Komodo Dragon is huge! But they are endangered because of deforestation.



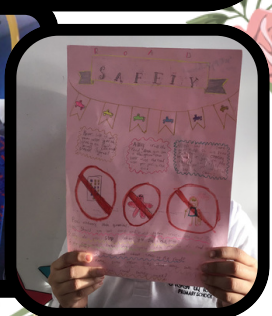
My road safety poster. I did this at home and listed the road rules you must follow to be safe!



I think this non-fiction book about space might be interesting.



Going on a London bus is fun! I need to make sure that I stay seated during the ride.



Road Safety Week

IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE ROAD SAFETY RULES ESPECIALLY IF WE ARE USING TRAINS AND BUSES TO TRAVEL AND CROSSING THE ROAD!

Book Fair

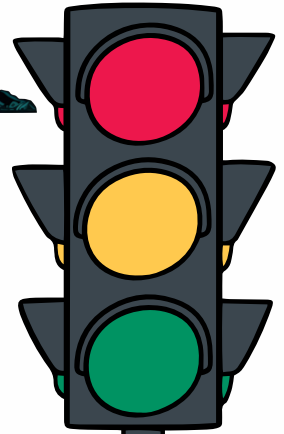
BOOK FAIR WAS WONDERFUL, WE GOT TO SEE DIFFERENT BOOK COLLECTIONS, AND BUY SOME TOO!

YEAR 4 MAKKAH

OUR TRIP TO THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM



"I liked the part when the volcano erupted during the workshop!" - Mohamed



Year 4 Makkah had an amazing time practising their role-plays for the Road Safety Week Assembly!

SAFETY FIRST

What is our place in this universe?

- The speed of light is **300,000 km** per second.
- Earth is 8 and a half light-minutes from the sun meaning it takes 8 minutes from the light to get to the sun.
- The nearest star to us after the sun is called **Proxima Centauri** (light takes 4 and a half years to get to us from that star).
- The North Star** (used for navigation) is **320 light years** away from us! When you look at the north star now, you are looking at what it ACTUALLY looked like 300 years ago! Right now, that is not what it looks like.
- The nearest neighbouring galaxy is 2 and a half million light-years away from us!
- In the grand scheme of things, we are nothing but a speck!



Proxima Centauri

AMAZING FUN FACT: One light-year is about 6 trillion miles (9 trillion km). That is a 6 with 12 zeros behind it!

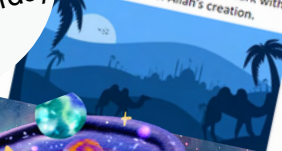
We learnt all about the phenomenal miracle of outer space, stars and the universe.
We learnt that Allah creates with precision and accuracy, Subhanallah!

Importance of stars in Islam

Stars are mentioned throughout the Quran & Sunnah.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ النُّجُومَ لِتَهْتَدُوا بِهَا فِي ظُلُمَاتِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ قَدْ فَصَّلْنَا الْآيَاتِ لِقَوْمٍ يَعْلَمُونَ
And He is the One Who has made the stars as your guide through the darkness of land and sea. We have already made the signs clear for people who know. [Surah Al-A'ham 6:97]

Stars helped people navigate their way around, travelling before satellites and Google Maps! People had to travel in the dark without cars, without street-lamps etc.



Welcome to our lovely new reading corner!

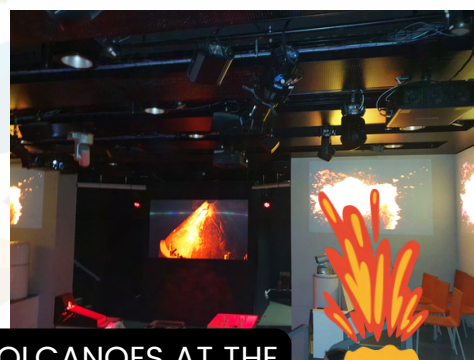
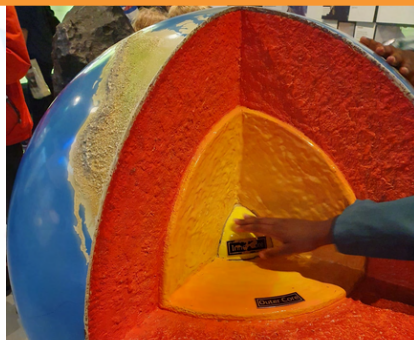
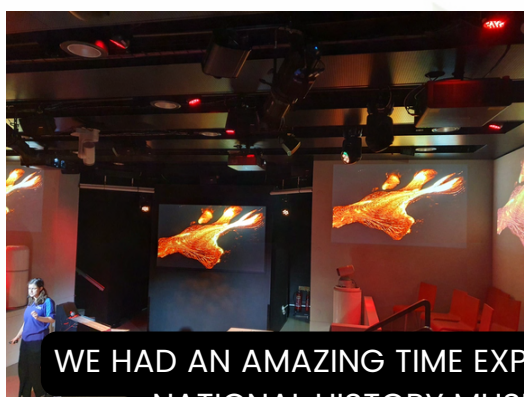




TAG RUGBY

WE HAVE SHOWN GREAT SPORTING SKILLS THIS HALF-TERM & PLAYED MANY GAMES OF RUGBY!

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM – VOLCANOES



WE HAD AN AMAZING TIME EXPLORING THE FEATURES OF VOLCANOES AT THE NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM. A TRULY INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE!

MAKING SUNDIALS IN SCIENCE



YR 4 MADINAH CREATED THEIR OWN SUNDIALS IN SCIENCE TO LEARN ABOUT HOW SHADOWS ARE FORMED. WE LOOKED AT THE IMPORTANCE OF SHADOWS IN CALCULATING SALAH TIMES!

ROAD SAFETY WEEK – BRIGHT CLOTHES DAY!

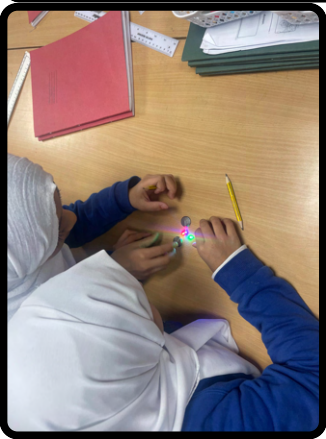
WE LEARNT KEY SKILLS TO STAY SAFE WHILST CROSSING ROADS AND OUT AND ABOUT. WE TOOK PART IN BRIGHT CLOTHES DAY TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF VISIBILITY IN DARK WINTERS.

STAY
SAFE



Science experiment

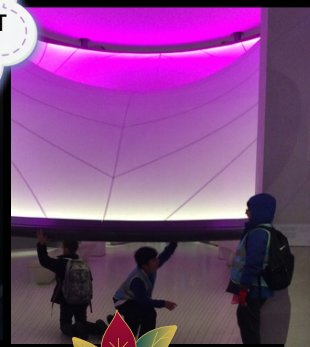
WE HAD AN AMAZING TERM STUDYING ALL ABOUT LIGHT. WE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE DIFFERENT EXPERIMENTS TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE SEE LIGHT!



Science Museum Trip



LOOK HOW BRIGHT THIS LIGHT IS!



LEARNING A NASHEED IN FRENCH WAS CHALLENGING BUT WE ENJOYED THE WHOLE PROCESS.



DT-Sewing

IT WAS REALLY FUN LEARNING AND PRACTISING SEWING SKILLS BEFORE SEWING OUR VERY OWN CUSHIONS.



YEAR 6

**Year 6 have had a great Autumn 2!
They settled into their prefect roles, established better routines and took part in clubs and activities they would normally shy away from!
MashaaAllah keep it up!**

We visited the Clink Prison Museum



A gory visit to the Clink Prison Museum had emotions going wild. While some pupils were intrigued to discover the horrifying methods of punishment within the medieval times; some were mortified. How could this be and why?! All children were enlightened as to how punishments and sanctions have certainly changed today.



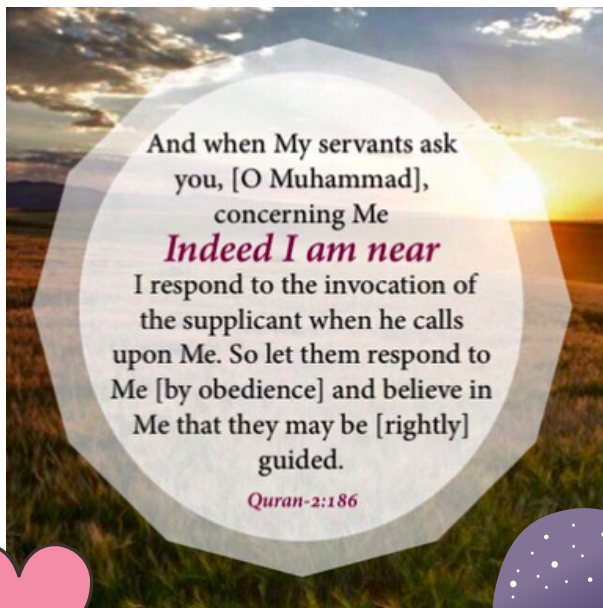
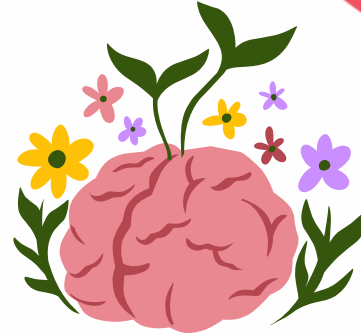
Scholastic Book Fair

Year 6 did an excellent job running the Book Fair and earned £906 of free books for the school! They developed their leadership, communication and team work skills. Well done!



TARBIYYAH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING

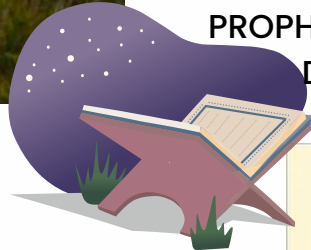
CONNECT TO ALLAH AND CONNECT TO PEOPLE



SPENDING 5 MINUTES RECITING OR LISTENING TO QURAN DAILY

DOING THE MORNING AND EVENING 'DHIKR/ZIKR' (REMEMBRANCE/ GRATITUDE) AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PROPHET (PEACE AND BLESSINGS BE UPON HIM)

SPENDING A FEW MINUTES DAILY DOING 'DUA' (SUPPLICATION); ONES RECOMMENDED BY THE PROPHET (PBUH) OR YOUR OWN PERSONAL DUAS IN YOUR OWN LANGUAGE



GOOD RELATIONSHIPS ARE IMPORTANT FOR YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING TOO AS THEY CAN:

HELP YOU TO BUILD A SENSE OF BELONGING AND SELF-WORTH.

GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE POSITIVE EXPERIENCES.

PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND ALLOW YOU TO SUPPORT OTHERS.



Actions based on parental feedback

At Noor Ul Islam Primary School, we actively review what we do on an ongoing basis.

As part of that review, we listen to the feedback from across our community. We do that in a number of ways from the informal response to our more formal events like the coffee morning and parent surveys.

Not all suggestions will be implemented but many are. This page outlines what our parents have said and what we have done to implement those suggestions and it will be updated as we continue to improve our school at every opportunity.

Do you have something to add? Contact us at the school gates.

Homework	Families wanted a mix of online and written homework	We will share the new Homework policy in the news year. We will be launching the 'Writing for Pleasure' books, as a way to encourage writing at home and offline!
Communications	Families wanted better communications and response	We have more senior staff and office staff who have access to the email so they don't get missed. We also want to reduce the number of emails and have encouraged parents to talk and clarify matters before writing to save time and responded to all queries in good time.
Enrichment	Families stated that they wanted more enrichment clubs	We are introducing an extensive enrichment program including a range of clubs and trips. Two new clubs starting in January.
Behaviour	There is confusion regarding what the behaviour policy is.	The formal policy is on the school website. We held our Coffee Morning focusing on behaviour and every classroom has posters for pupils and we have a whole school display on behaviour.
Communications	We have joined the school but, as parents, we don't feel that we know anybody. We would like to create more of a community	We have ensured that the PTFA have a high profile at the school so that parents can be better connected as they join the Noor Ul Islam school community. Join the PTFA and be part of the community.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

RECEPTION: **Ayyub Ali** for his amazing akhlaq and willingness to work hard in all lessons and always having a positive attitude and a caring personality for everyone in his class too and **Aasiyah Patel** for showing a respectful attitude towards everyone at school and working hard to achieve her fullest potential in everything she does.

YEAR 1: **Abdulaziz Ahmed** for following the school values to the best of his ability and **Maryam Khalid** for trying her best to follow the school values.

YEAR 2: **Ismaeel Waheed** and **Ariana Basi** for always following the school values.

YEAR 3: **Ibrahim Paknahad** for showing a great respect to the school values and showing resilience when exhibiting those values and **Haniyah Khan** for her excellent attitude and mannerism in school throughout the term and improving her character after every week.

YEAR 4 MAKKAH: **Fatimah Ahmed** for upholding the school values to the best of her ability and **Mohamed Hadjilat** for trying to uphold the school values with excellence!

YEAR 4 MADINAH: **Asiya Khan** for her exemplary attitude towards her learning and displaying truthfulness in her actions and speech and **Safwaan Mayet** for championing excellence in his work ethic, his friendships and attitude to school life.

YEAR 5: **Haroon Pirbhai** and **Yusraa Begum** for following and exceeding the school values.

YEAR 6: **Amara Cabezas Angarita** and **Ibrahim Shahid** for showing exemplary behaviour and outstanding manners by upholding the school values at all times.



A SPECIAL STORY TIME

Dr Wajid Akther visited us for the seerah session, introducing Prophet's life as a child.



LEARNING ABOUT PARLIAMENT DURING PARLIAMENT WEEK



Our pupils learnt about democracy and the UK Parliament as part of our assemblies.

We want all pupils that attend our school to have the opportunity to develop a strong set of values and principles, and question and understand what it means to grow up as a citizen in Britain. We want our pupils to know our British Values underpinning what is to be a good citizen, while valuing and celebrating diversity.



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

AUTUMN TERM (Sep – Dec 2023)

Attendance

Rank	Class	%
1st	Year 3	95.9
2nd	Year 4 Makkah	95.7
3rd	Year 5	95.5
4th	Year 6	94.9
5th	Year 1	93.3
6th	Year 2	93.2
7th	Year 4 Madinah	93.2
8th	Reception	89.2

Punctuality

Rank	Class	%
1st	Year 5	98.7
2nd	Year 3	98.4
3rd	Year 6	98.2
4th	Year 2	97.7
5th	Year 1	97.3
6th	Year 4 Madinah	97.2
7th	Year 4 Makkah	97.2
8th	Reception	96.6

PTFA

FUN, FUNDRAISING AND FINESSE

At the end of last half term, the school came together to support the Palestinians who are suffering as a result of the war on Gaza. JazaakAllahu khayran to the PTFA at Noor Ul Islam Primary School for organising this in a short time for the whole community coming together to truly live up to our school value of sadaqah or charity. We have raised an amazing figure Masha'Allah: £6,000.

Fathers and Childrens Event

PTFA's first ever Fathers and Childrens event took place on Sunday 10th December. It was an afternoon filled with play and activities enjoyed by the children with their dads. This was followed by a tasty meal.

Family Fun Day

"It was epic!" These were the words expressed by one of our children at Noor Ul Islam Primary School describing the Family Fun Day held yesterday, 14th December. It was a well- attended event with lots of fun for children as well as mouth-watering food donated once again from our generous donors.

The amount raised from our Family Fun Day have now been finalised: Alhamdulillah over £1000 was raised for the school playground. I would like to thank every volunteer who worked tirelessly to make this event a success. May Allah grant us many more of these gatherings to form positive and memorable experiences for our community at Noor Ul Islam Primary School.



**EVENING
HIGH TEA
@NEW ROAD HOTEL**

HOSTED BY NAZIA
SHANICE & ASMA

Come par-tea with other lovely ladies. Feel free to bring along friends and family.

All proceeds will be going towards Noor Ul Islam Primary school playground.

●

Ticket Price:
Thirty Pounds (pp)
Ladies only (11 plus)

Limited availability. Book now to avoid disappointment. Payment required for confirmed reservation.

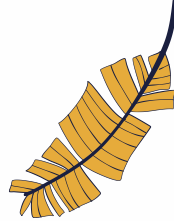
Saturday 20 January 2024
doors open at 6pm

Venue address:
103-107 New Road,
London E1 1HJ

Nazia - 07824903797
(message to book tickets)

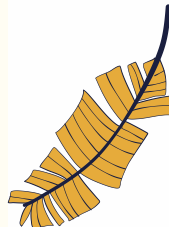
WINTER PERFORMANCES

Jazakallahu khayran to everyone for working so hard to make our end of term performances such a success. The recitation, singing and creativity were excellent and really helped us to think about the diversity of our world of languages.



The children greatly enjoyed learning and singing in different languages and coming in dressed up in the colours of the flag representing their chosen language. We tapped into the multi-lingual skills of our teachers who did a fabulous job teaching the children nasheeds in Arabic, Urdu, Spanish and French.

AND OF HIS SIGNS IS THE
CREATION OF THE
HEAVENS AND THE EARTH
AND THE DIVERSITY OF
YOUR LANGUAGES AND
YOUR COLORS. INDEED IN
THAT ARE SIGNS FOR
THOSE OF KNOWLEDGE.
QURAN, 30:22



We Are Writers

ENTER THE WORLD OF WRITING



At Noor-Ul-Islam Primary School we intend to inspire and develop effective writers who are confident in their understanding of what it means to write for a range of genres and purposes.

**Assalamualaikum
Warahmatullaahi wabarakatuh!**

Calling the young writers in key stage 2 of Noor-Ul-Islam Primary School!

We are excited to announce our school's *We Are Writers* programme. This term we begin with key stage 2!

Our learning aim is to encourage our pupils to develop their love for writing and provide opportunities for our pupils to write for a range of purposes all based on their personal interests!

What are the benefits?

Developing children's writing enables them to...

- ~ Improve their grammar skills
- ~ Increase their vocabulary
- ~ Up level pupils writing skills

We look forward to unravelling wonderful writers here at NoorUl-Islam!



**BRING YOUR WRITING ON
THE FIRST DAY BACK!
BEST PIECE OF WRITING
FROM EACH CLASS WILL
BE ON DISPLAY FOR ALL
TO READ AND ENJOY
INSHAALLAH!**

**SHARE YOUR INTERESTS
WITH OTHERS & INSPIRE
THEM TO BE WRITERS TOO!**

NEWS JUST IN!



ARE YOU EXCITED TO BE PART OF THE 'WE ARE WRITERS' GROUP?



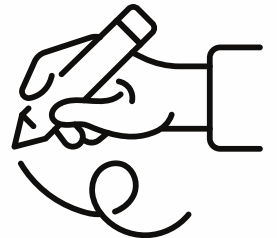
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

ONCE A WEEK CHOOSE A TOPIC OF YOUR CHOICE. DECIDE HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE ABOUT IT.

FOR EXAMPLE: *TOPIC: SPORTS. WRITING PIECE: A LETTER TO FAVOURITE FOOTBALLER.*

WHEN DO I DO IT?

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A SPECIAL PURPLE BOOK EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOUR WRITING PIECES EVERY WEEK!



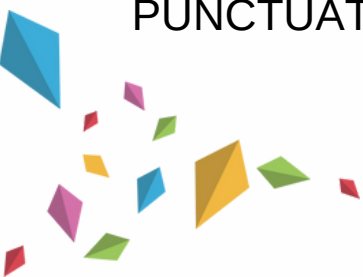
IS THIS JUST EXTRA HOMEWORK?

NOT AT ALL! THIS IS GIVING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY AND SPACE TO WRITE ABOUT THINGS YOU FIND INTERESTING AND LOVE! IT'S NOT A MUST TO COMPLETE - BUT DEFINITELY WORTH YOUR TIME!

WHY IS IT WORTH MY TIME I HEAR YOU ASK?

WRITING HELPS ME TO...

IMPROVE MY SKILLS IN VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, PUNCTUATION, SPELLINGS AND READING COMPREHENSION!



MEET OUR GOVERNORS

ZEENAT ALI – CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I started the new academic year with the honour of being able to serve our community as chair of governors. I have been blessed to be able to build upon a long and illustrious relationship with Noor Ul Islam Primary School and the community more widely for the betterment of our pupils.

As a parent who has been through Noor Ul Islam Primary with my daughter I have a great stake and investment in our local and burgeoning institution that has such a special place in all our lives. This coupled with my life-long passion for Islamic education and community support as a key form of Sadaqah jaariya; raising the next generation and sewing the seeds of our life and after life.

This past year has been an opportunity to ensure the school has been able to cross all the t's and dot all the i's that ensure Noor Ul Islam is a safe, nurturing and happy environment for every child.

This has included support of leadership and SLT through periods of growth and change. Ensuring we have the systems and procedures in place to ensure quality of education in at every opportunity. And of course, this has included looking after our truly amazing staff who make that all possible. Clarity of vision and purpose has been a key consideration to ensure we are all steadfast upon our mission, and for us as Muslims, in how much this connects with our greater sense of purpose.

As ever, the governing board and I have also been looking at policy and the financial health of the school.

We have been blessed to maintain a good Ofsted rating, an achievement given the wider policy changes in the education space and how they impress on practice. We thank our staff again for their dedication, and many many hours in helping to achieve this. I have been very honoured to support our amazing leadership and staff reach their potential.

This has also been the result of dedicated planning – looking at areas of weakness to improve and strength to consolidate.

As you know; the key role of governors is to ensure we give the strategic direction and oversight as well as maintain a balance between supporting and holding leadership to account, we have welcomed the opportunity to maintain those robust and productive professional relationships.

Our priority this year is to continue to strengthen the school, and leadership. We hope to continue in our journey of Improving Curriculum – in particular this year we want to incorporate a PSHE curriculum with an Islamic ethos, an RE curriculum which meets our schools needs, improve recall systems in the school to ensure we are embedding learning, and continue to improve communication.

I pray Allah swt continues to shower his blessings upon Noor Ul Islam and we all work together to strengthen our school and support each other moving forward.

Ofsted report: Alhamdulillah we have now met all the standards.

Thanks to the staff, the Trust, the governors and all the parents who supported the school to ensure we meet the standards. This could not have been possible without everyone working together. JazaakAllaahu Khayr.

Overall, leaders now demonstrate the skills and knowledge required, and fulfill their responsibilities effectively, so that the standards checked are met and likely to continue to be met.



MEET A GOVERNOR AT THE NEXT COFFEE AFTERNOON



CARING FOR OUR UMMAH WITH OUR CHARITY PARTNER HUMAN RELIEF FOUNDATION

Human Relief Foundation (HRF) would like to thank you for the support that you showed to our humanitarian work.

As the world watches on, the humanitarian crisis in Palestine fills us with sadness and the compulsion to come together to support the innocent civilians caught up in this unfolding catastrophe.

We are working with our local partner - the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA), to deliver your aid where the need is greatest, when humanitarian corridors open and it is safe for us to do so.

The UNRWA are working tirelessly, under the most unimaginable and life threatening conditions, providing shelter, food, water and medical assistance. One of UNRWA's schools in Rafah, sheltering 4,600 people, sustained severe collateral damage from a close proximity strike, with another 40 UNRWA facilities being severely impacted by the shelling.

You can contact HRF at Shaheed@hrf.co.uk or on 07956 470778 if you have any questions. You can also visit our website: www.hrf.org.uk for additional information about our humanitarian activities.

Shaheed Khoyrul, Head of Community Engagement





Noor ul Islam



PRIMARY SCHOOL



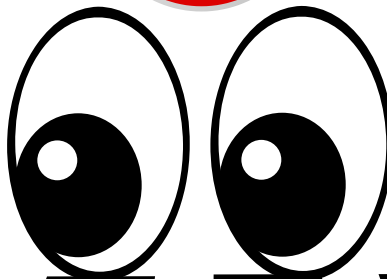
Even if
you're late



DON'T PARK



NEAR OUR GATE!



DRIVE SLOWLY, MIND THE CHILD!



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JANUARY 2024

Due to an extension of school roll, we are excited to announce there are **3** spaces available in Year 4. To apply, please complete the online admissions form using the link below.

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