

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Stillness Junior School

Newsletter Date  
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## Stillness Junior Newsletter

### RE at Stillness Junior School

Stillness Junior School are very proud of the fact they acknowledge and celebrate various faiths and religions as a part of their education.

We have had the good fortune to have hands on experience, within some of the religions we learn about.

### Y3

This term, Y3 have looked at Buddhism. What is a Buddha? How does Buddhism teach people to live? They have looked at the story of Siddhartha and the swan? The importance of a Temple and exploring the idea of why Buddhist have images of the Buddha in their places of worship. Y3 have not only learned what it means to be a Buddhist, but they have started to discuss how the teachings of Buddhism is like some of the values in Stillness Junior School (or within their own homes). This year they will investigate Christianity and have further lessons on Hinduism as well as Sikhism.

### Y4

Y4 have looked at both Judaism and Christianity this year. They have had the opportunity to study a Synagogue, pin pointing the main features of it and sharing what is similar and dissimilar to other places of worship they have visited in the past. They also had discussions on some of the elements of Christianity, and found out some important facts about the faith. Many children practice Christianity and so it has made for a lively discussion and the children were able to learn more about their classmates' beliefs. We looked at the different Jewish festivals which are celebrated within it and how they support their followers to be up standing Jews within the community.



Children listening and following dance moves found in Indian dancing. The whole school were able to gain a few tips on how individuals within Bollywood movies dance.

### Y5

Y5 have been looking at Islam in the autumn term; throughout the year they have been exposed to information about religions such as Hinduism and Sikhism. Their highlights thus far were visiting a Mosque where they had the opportunity to communicate with an individual who follows the teaching of Allah. This brought the religion of Islam alive and was a great topic of discussion where the children were able to reflect on thinking about their own lives and what they consider right from wrong. The Mosque they visited contained different patterns and symbols. One of the lessons they completed gave them the chance to think about what symbols mean a lot to them and why? The children created their own and shared what it meant to them.

They also explored the idea of the way doors within the Mosque looked, noticing the unique way in which they are designed and the beautiful colours used in the patterns.

## Y6

Within RE they have been looking at a variety of faiths. Within Buddhism they looked at the life of the Buddha, learning the importance of The Noble eight-fold path and how these concepts relate to their own personal lives.

We then followed up with lessons on key Buddhist stories with morals which support those of the Buddhist faith; to be considerate of other people. They have had the opportunity to create lanterns and use role play to help them understand some of the significant lessons Buddhist must learn.

Judaism has led them on a path of discovering that they believe in **only** one God and they were taught about the Jewish scroll "Torah" and how it helps people to understand what it means to be a Jew.

### Pupils creating Diya



### Reminders to Parents

Encourage your child/ren to explore various religions throughout England. We at Stillness look at the following faiths. However, we know there are many more in the world. These are the faiths we learn about in Stillness Junior School.

1. Christianity
2. Judaism
3. Buddhism
4. Islam
5. Hinduism
6. Sikhism

## This Years Highlights

Stillness Junior School were given the opportunity to be a part of a Hindu festival. We celebrated it on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November with some Indian dancing and Diya painting. Each year group were able to use their artistic skills to create a Diya lamp which holds a tea light. Within this faith the light warns of evil spirits. Y5 were fortunate enough to visit an Islamic place of worship where they were able to question the Imam and gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Muslim.

### Children Indian dancing



## Thank You Everyone!

Special thanks:

All KS2 Teachers for creating some, exciting, memorable and hands on RE lessons, in which the children can learn about different religions. These included, visiting a Mosque and being exposed to the various elements of Islam and what it means to be a Muslim. Visiting local Churches and seeing that they look, sound differently.

Mrs Nichol for allowing the whole school to be exposed to learning about Diwali and the reason for its existence. Mihir Mohan and his mother who are practicing Hindus, for sharing the true meaning of Diwali and sharing with us some of the things they do during that time. Making links to other religions such as Christianity.

Miss Kelly for always being available to capture the children involved in RE lessons.