

Ramadan assembly and Purim celebration



This week, we have recognised two significant religious festivals within our school community. On Wednesday, we held an assembly for High School pupils to explore the significance of Ramadan in the Islamic calendar and what it means for our Muslim pupils.

Ramadan is the holiest month in Islam, marking the time when the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. While many were already aware that Muslims fast during daylight hours throughout this month, our assembly went further, explaining the reasons behind this practice and the broader spiritual aspects of Ramadan. We discussed how it is a time for self-reflection, avoiding negative thoughts and behaviours, breaking bad habits, doing good deeds, and increasing both prayer and charitable giving. Islam teaches that the rewards in the afterlife of one's actions during this month are multiplied, highlighting its deep significance.

It was wonderful to have several of our Muslim pupils volunteer to share their personal experiences of Ramadan, offering insights into the challenges they face, as well as the aspects of the month they find most rewarding. A special thank you to Hamza Shah for helping with my Arabic pronunciation!

Also this week, we had a visit from Rabbi Reuven Cohen who came into school on Friday to mark the Jewish festival of Purim. Purim commemorates the story of Esther, as recorded in the Megillah, part of the Hebrew Bible, in which the Jewish people are saved from Haman's evil scheme to annihilate them. The festival is celebrated by a reading of this story with interaction from the congregation, most notably by loudly booing whenever Haman's name is mentioned.

Mr Daniel Reeves