

Dear Parent, Carers, and Friends of Iqra Primary School,

Assalam u Alaikum.

It's been a busy Autumn term with so much happening in and around school! The children have been fantastic this term and have risen to many varied challenges. I hope you enjoy the roundup of all the exciting activities. Remember to keep safe and warm over the winter holidays.

Best wishes

Dr Mineza Maher (Headteacher)

Parents Open Mornings

Thank you to all the parents who came along to the Open Mornings. The Open Mornings were an opportunity for parents experience the different teaching strategies that are used in the classroom in order to support their children at home. Parents had an opportunity to experience arithmetic, spelling and grammar lessons. In their feedback parents stated that the open mornings were really helpful in showing them how to teach the various subjects at home.

World Mental Health Day

Iqra school joined others in observing World Mental Health Day on October 10th. The whole school took part in a series of Worry Wizard workshops aimed at building and promoting wellbeing in children. The children learned about how we can look after ourselves and how we can deal with our worries. Do take a look at our website for more information on our approach towards emotional and mental wellbeing as well as our wellbeing video on Iqra TV.



Inspirational Quote

Raise your words, not
 your voice.

It is the rain that grows
 flowers, not thunder.

Rumi



Super stars

Fatima Qazi in 6.1 for her creativity in writing

Sabahat Quadri in 6.3 for his excellent hard work across the curriculum

Qirat Arslan in 6.1 for her leadership skills

Alishba Mohammed, Izza Raja and **Haleemah Jarral** in 6.2 for their tremendous help in the poppy appeal

Hafsa Arfad in 6.3 for her excellent hard work across the curriculum

Maarij Mir in 5.3 for excellent problem-solving skills in Maths!

WELL DONE!!!

Year 4 trip to Hampton Court

Year 4 enjoyed a trip to Hampton Court as part of their topic on the Tudors and Stewarts. The children experienced the world of a Tudor court and Henry VIII. Everyone enjoyed exploring the magnificent castle and gardens whilst receiving a hands-on demonstration of pie making in a Tudor kitchen. The best bit was searching for ghosts in the infamous Haunted Gallery!



National Deaf Children's Society

As part of National Disability Awareness Week, Iqra Primary School received a visit from Luke Collins-Hayes from the National Deaf Children's Society. National Disability awareness week provides a great opportunity for the pupils to learn more about difference. The school works hard to teach out pupil's respect for all, empathy and awareness of the others and this was evident in the curiosity, questions and comments directed to Luke.

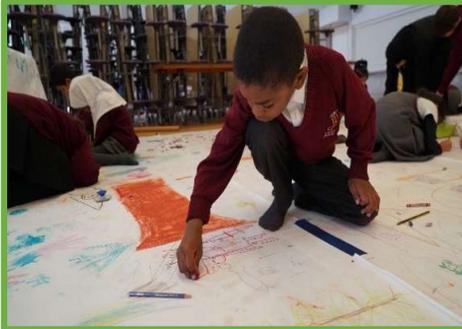
Luke, who was born deaf, was accompanied by Laura who interpreted for him throughout the day. The pupils improved their deaf awareness by learning about the challenges a deaf person might face and how to reduce the communication barriers. There was an opportunity to learn and use some sign language and to try out some amazing technology available to deaf people such as vibrating alarm clocks and flashing doorbells.



The Big Draw

Rolls and rolls of paper (recyclable off course!) paper, pencils, colours and paints were on the ready for our pupils to take part in the October Big Draw Festival, the annual celebration of the power of drawing.

The Big Draw believes everyone can draw and everyone should have access to the benefits of drawing. We say we agree! Especially in view of increasing evidence which suggests that drawing is the single most powerful tool for learning and retaining new ideas as proven by Leonardo Da Vinci, amongst many others. The day was a resounding success with the children really getting into the spirit of the event. Please encourage your children to explore their imaginations through drawing at home. Drawing is a key tool in many professions from mathematicians, to engineers, to graphic designers, to surgeons!



Super stars

Huzaifa Saqib in 1.2 for great progress in independent writing, listening well in class and for always trying his best

Eesah Jarral in R3 For the tremendous effort he puts into his learning and the brilliant progress he has as a result.

Cirine Djebbari, Fatima Haider, Ahsaan Khan, Mohammed Hassan all in 4.1 for independent learning and maturity within the class

Daniyal Khan, Habiba Arslan and Muhammad Sheraz from 4.2 for showing resilience and a positive attitude to learning

Sadath Ghori Mohammed in 1.1 for excellent behaviour and showing a positive attitude towards learning

WELL DONE!!!

Eco Warriors

The children have been learning about climate change and the actions that are contributing to this situation. We have pledged to made strides to look after our environment and encourage everyone to be as eco-friendly as possible.

Each year children from Year 2 will be invited to apply for a role as an Eco Warrior. Twelve selected Eco Warriors will have an active role in school to raise our awareness about sustainability and encourage everyone to be good at recycling and saving energy. Eco-Warrior representatives will help to increase the school's awareness on how we can be more considerate of our world, help the school make decisions and to come with ideas for the future. Watch this space for further news on our Eco Warriors and what they are doing to make a difference.

Black History Week

This year in celebration of Black History Month, Iqra hosted a carousel of events which looked at achievements of inspiring black role models such as Nelson Mandela, Mo Farah, Martin Luther King, Mary Seacole. Children also took part in art, music and drama workshops celebrating black culture and history.

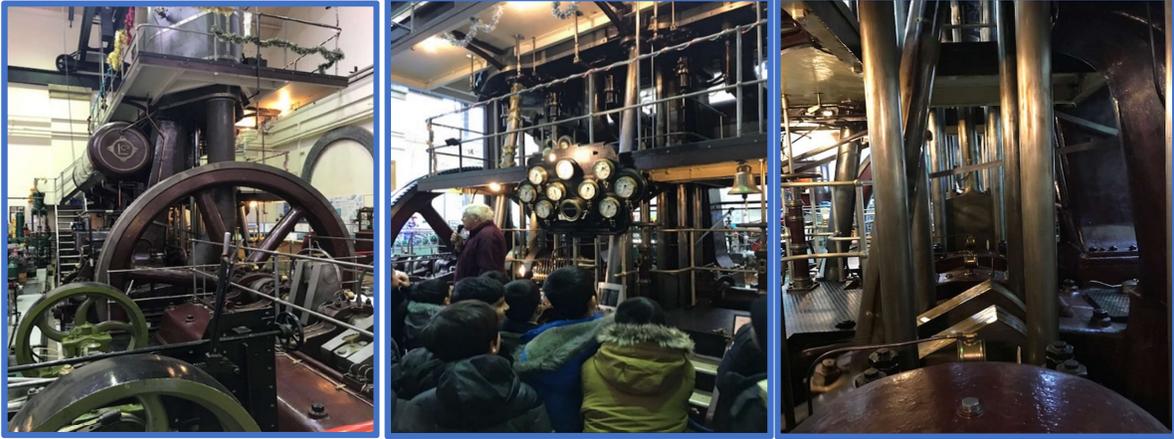


Black History Month is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and recognise the outstanding contribution of black British people to our society. Throughout October, schools up and down the country put on events that honour the accomplishments of black Britons throughout history



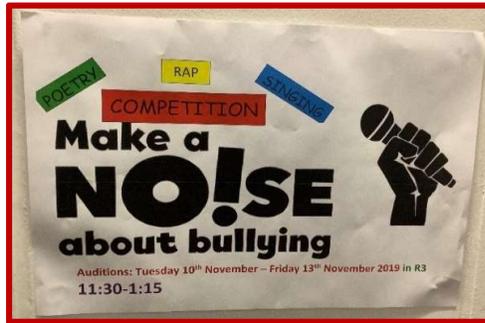
Year 5 trip to Museum of Power

Following hot on Year 6's heels, was the Year 5 trip to the Museum of Power, located at Langford, Essex. The children's topic about the Industrial Revolution was brought to life through the numerous power-related exhibits with many working examples of various power sources, machinery, equipment and tools. The children learned about the steam engine and how it changed the face of the manufacturing business. There was lots more to do outside in the grounds including a model village and the miniature railway. A fun day full of interactive workshops and learning!



Anti-Bullying Week:

The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week was **change starts with us**. In order to partake in Anti-Bullying Week, we held an Odd Socks Day. The purpose of this was to help children understand and celebrate our differences. Children also had an anti-bullying assembly, respect workshops and lessons focused on bullying in their PSHE lessons. Pupils learnt about what bullying is and how they can stand up for themselves and others. Pupils also took part in an anti-bullying poster competition and anti-bullying performance competition, for which winners will receive prizes this week. We also held a parent workshop focusing on supporting children by forming a strong parent and school partnership.



Year 2 trip to Kidzania

Year 2 became Police Officers, Artists, Doctors, Dentists and more during their trip to Kidzania. It was a pleasure seeing the children talk about some of their aspirations and having a go as they stepped into roleplay. All in all, a great day in being independent and building confidence by interacting with all that was on offer.

Reception trip to London Aquarium

Reception visited the London aquarium to see all the sea creatures they have been learning about in their topic. The children were very brave and walked across a glass bridge, below them were lots of sharks swimming away! The children even had a chance to stroke a starfish!



Year 6 trip to Brunel University & Winchester Science Centre

Year 6 made a trip to Brunel University as part of their Computing this term. Pupils were given an opportunity to develop their coding skills in a fun and inspiring way. Brunel Universities initiative aims to give children an experience of what life is like on a University campus to raise their future career aspirations. The children had a great time taking part in all the workshops of offer and being a university student for the day. In fact, we were so impressed, we repeated the experience with the whole school by inviting Brunel to visit us at the school. Check out the school YouTube channel for our video journaling the whole thing!

Learning about science continued with the Year 6 trip to Winchester Science Centre. This time the children were learning about light and received a hands-on experience by trying different science activities. The amazing 4D planetarium show was a forgettable experience, from being sucked into a black hole to flying through the Solar System.



Fundraising

Thank you to all our parents for supporting the various events and getting into the spirit in the name of charity. Here is a round up of all that we achieved this term.



A fantastic £368.40 was raised for Jeans for Genes Day which is the annual fundraising event for Genetic Disorders UK. This money raised will go towards helping children living with genetic disorders. By wearing our jeans to school and donating we have contributed towards changing the lives of these children for the better Insha'Allah.



Thames Hospice is our local charity who provides care for people living with serious illness from which they are not expected to recover. The hospice has asked the community to come together to help them fundraise the final £3 million needed for their new facility in Bray. The new Hospice will provide the much-needed space for additional inpatient rooms, space for families to stay overnight, a dedicated Day Therapy Centre and more.

Iqra school hosted a Charity Cake Sale and raised **£346.00** towards much needed funds. A group of children went along to present the check to Thames Hospice and find out a bit more about where the money would go



Iqra held a Sports themed Mufti day in November and took part in the Big Morning Move challenge to raise funds for Children in Need. After much huffing and puffing we raised an amazing **£352.62**. Could you do the Big Move Challenge? Give it a go with the kids for some fun over the holiday break!



Super stars

Maida Naveed in R3 for being brave and resilient when facing challenges

Husna Ali in 5.3 for her brilliant level of curiosity shown in Science

Hanad Abdi in 5.3 for improving his attitude towards grasping new knowledge

Haleema Azeem in 5.3 for her excellent contribution to class discussions – well done for voicing your opinions!

Aniyah Mehreen in R.2 for always being super helpful and making super learning choices

Khadijah Ali in R2 for always trying her best and making excellent progress in her writing

WELL DONE!!!

Important Notices

Can parents please ensure that their children come to school with the correct PE kit, including the new PE T Shirt. All children are expected to change for their PE and Games lesson.

Please note the school day timings. We continue to have a number of children arriving late in the mornings and being picked up late when school ends. Please ensure that your child arrives to school on time and is picked up at promptly at the end of the day.

8.25am - School gates open

8.40am - Class registration

10.30AM - 11.20 AM Break time (staggered)

11.30AM - 1.15 PM Lunch time (staggered)

2.50pm - Reception school day ends

3.00pm - School day ends for Yr. 1 - Yr. 6