

Heartbeat



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Issue 12

Year 13s explore Muslim faith during mosque visit



Having witnessed the Year 12s successfully complete the National College Open Network (NOCN) back in October, it was the turn of our Year 13s last month.

Among the week-long series of activities the Sixth Formers enjoyed was a trip to the Al Rahma Masjid Mosque in Liverpool.

Upon their arrival, the students were welcomed by a guide who explained the prayer life of a Muslim, the value of family, the pilgrimage to Mecca and what it was like to be a Muslim in Britain today.

Among those accompanying the Sixth Formers was Head of RE, Mr Moorhead, he said: "As part of this fascinating trip, the students were shown the way Muslims

pray. All the boys knelt on the carpet in rows, facing the East, as that is where Mecca is. Then, the girls were shown and they all knelt together.

"We explored the two community halls looking at the artwork, calligraphy, Korans, costumes and other aspects of Muslim life.

"We also watched a DVD on Mecca and the importance of the Hajj pilgrimage. All the girls wore headscarves and everyone took their shoes off."

Among the students who enjoyed the trip was Nathan Jackson (13A), he said: "I have heard a lot of negative things and misinterpretations in the media about

Muslims. However, today we had everything explained so clearly. Now I realise that they are a community just like we are."

Mr Moorhead praised the students for the respect they showed during the trip, he added: "I was very proud of Year 13 as they showed great respect and interest in another culture and religion.

"They were open-minded and asked lots of questions. Their behaviour was excellent and they were a pleasure to be with.

"In modern Britain we need to prepare our students to live in a multi-cultural society. Ignorance is always the main cause of prejudice."

Netball & Cross Country teams crowned champions

Our sporting students enjoyed success at the double last month, as both our U18 netball team and our Y10 cross country team were crowned champions.

What made the girls' success in the Sefton Netball tournament even more incredible was the fact they had only played together for the first time 24 hours earlier.

Head of PE, Mrs Hewlett said: "This was an exciting tournament with the girls playing Merchant Taylors, St. Mary's, Maricourt and Holy Family.

"The girls, made up of both Y12 and Y13s, won all their matches and were named Sefton Champions. It was a great afternoon of netball."

Not to be outdone, the boys' cross country teams raced to glory at the North West Finals, held in Leverhulme Park, Bolton. Mrs Hewlett added: "Both boys' teams had won their regional round at Crosby a few weeks earlier.

"The conditions in Bolton were very wet and windy and very muddy under foot. Our Y7/Y8 boys team came in 5th out of 12 teams, which was a great achievement, as this was the first time that they had raced at this level.

"Our Y10 boys took part in the final race of the day and we had high hopes for them after they reached the National Finals last year. Again, it was difficult conditions, as the course was well and truly churned up by then. However, the boys were crowned winners, beating 11 other teams from Lancashire, Manchester and Cumbria, qualifying for the the National Finals in Cornwall on Saturday.

"We were extremely proud of our pupils as they were a great credit to the College and have trained so hard."



News in brief

Good luck to our Year 7 athletes taking part in the Sports Hall Athletics at Chesterfield this afternoon. Our annual French play will be staged for our Year 7 pupils tomorrow. Year 11 Mock exams start on Wednesday and Year 11 Presentation Evening takes place on Friday.

Coffee morning raises more than £300

Our generous staff raised an impressive £328 for charity recently as they took part in Macmillan's Annual 'Biggest Coffee Morning in the World' fundraiser.

Staff were treated to a whole host of goodies in exchange for a donation. Pat Gee, from Upper Site Support

Staff, organised the event, providing all the toast on the day. The following day, Lower Site staff sold more homemade cakes and refreshments during break. Mrs Gee said: "An impressive £328 was raised in total and I would like to thank everyone for their generosity and support."