



# Whittlefield Primary and Nursery School

Spring Newsletter 5: A Bumper Edition

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February



This week Mrs Hume came into school for her first 'keeping in touch' day (KiT). It was lovely to hear about how her little boy is and to have her with us for the day. Mrs Hume worked with Mr Booth on preparations for our Year 6 residential in the summer and with Mrs Brindle on developing our maths curriculum.

Year 6 have been learning about Hajj the annual pilgrimage to Mecca taken on by Muslims. As part of their research, they interviewed Mr T on Tuesday about his experiences of Hajj and why Hajj is important to him.

Olliver wanted to share his interesting account with us all:

Question: How old were you when you visited Mecca and how many times have you been?

*Mr T said that he was 23 year's old when he went to Hajj. He also said he has only been once because he wants to let others go and have the experience.*

Question: How did the experience make him feel?

*He said it made him feel good because it was his time to chill out and think about all the good things he has had in his life.*



Question: Did he do everything and did he have a favourite part?

*Mr T said that he did every section and his favourite part was Kaaba because he got to look at it, appreciate that he was there and it's a journey he will never forget!*

Question: Why was it important for him to make the pilgrimage?

*It is important to go because it's one of the five pillars of Islam; every Muslim tries to go in there lifetime.*

## The journey of Hajj by Sam and Adam

Today Mr T taught us about Hajj and how it was for him. His experience of it was very interesting, that's why this is being made.

First, we asked him about his age when he went and how many times he went. He went once and at the time he did, he was 23 years old in 2014.

He also talked to us about how his experience of Hajj was, leading to our next question of how it made him feel when he was there. He was overwhelmed by how many people were there and how all of them were from countries all round the world. He also said about how he felt so important. He stayed for a month instead of the 5 days and then flying back instantly.

Next our third question was talking to him about if he did everything that was there and if he had a favourite part. He said that his favourite part was Kaaba when he was there; he also said he did everything that he was supposed to do. He also talked to us and answered our questions. We asked him about a lot of things.

The experience made him feel accomplished about what he had done, after doing this he went back to his hotel and slept, he also went back the next day just to watch and relax in Kaaba and that is what he taught us.



## From Mecca to China

On Thursday, our Nursery turned into a Chinese restaurant. The children enjoyed a Chinese banquet: ordering soup for a starter, spring rolls and rice for a main course and a decorated bun for pudding.

They loved it and enjoyed trying all of the new foods!



Did you know that the Chinese New Year got underway on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and that it is the year of the Tiger?



## Our Spotlight on Our Governors: part 4

This week our Y6 School Council children interviewed our very own Mrs Vent.

### How long have you been a governor?

I have been a governor for 10 years at this school.

### What type of governor are you? Do you play a particular role on the Governing Board?

I am a co-opted governor but for the first 5 years I was a parent governor because my children came here.

### What made you volunteer to be a governor?

I became a governor because both my children came here at the time and wanted to help make a difference to the school and for the kids.

### What skills do you bring to the role? And have you ever been a teacher?

I have never taught; I don't think I could. I have financial skills and a lot of knowledge. I help support the finance governor. I found it really tough to answer this question.

### What are your hobbies?

I love to do motor homing around the country, read, walking, loves the beautiful places whilst motor homing

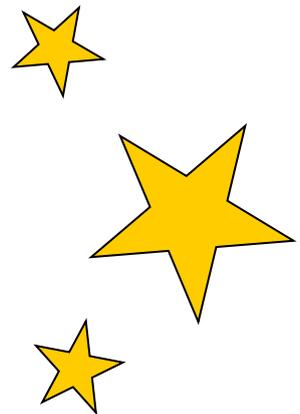
### Do you ever see yourself being chair of governors?

No because I'm quite happy being a governor. With working in school and then being chair of governors is a bit challenging

### What do you think about Whittlefield primary school?

I think it is the best school in Burnley. We are caring, nurturing and very respectful towards each other.

*Thank you to Eden and Adam for this report.*



Some of our children took part in an athletics competition against five other schools at Hameldon. We were proud to see that they gave their best in the sprinting, long jump, triple jump, javelin and chest pass; although they did not win, they enjoyed the taking part!



Next week, 7th-11th, February, it is **#Children's Mental Health Week**. The theme is 'Growing Together.'



We hope you have all seen the message about wearing a scarf on Friday. Just in case you haven't, here's a reminder:

At the start of your Wear your Scarf to School day - or maybe even when you're telling the children about it - take time to think about whether anyone's choice of scarf says something special about them and the ways in which different scarves could reflect the SCARF values.

For example:

- SAFETY - some scarves will be warm and comforting, helping to keep someone snug and safe in very cold weather!
- CARING - some scarves might have been a present from a special person; they'll help make someone feel cared for. Wearing a scarf as part of religious faith can also help someone to feel cared for.
- ACHIEVEMENT - some scarves might be part of a club, perhaps a sports team. These are waved when a club achieves (e.g. when a football team scores a goal!) They also show when someone belongs to something.
- RESILIENCE - a football team's scarf can also help someone to remember that they can still support a team even if it's not doing well; they can show resilience when bouncing back from defeat or disappointment.
- FRIENDSHIP - maybe some scarves were a gift from a friend and this makes them extra special.

### More details about Children's Mental Health Week

#Children's Mental Health Week is run by children's mental health charity Place2Be.

**Growing Together** will focus on the importance of looking after our emotional wellbeing from an early age, growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. We will be exploring how challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and how trying new things can help us to move out of our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out the **free resources** for families at

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

Finally...



This is a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, drawn by Gracie in Year 6 as part of our Platinum Jubilee work in school... we were all so impressed with her artistic skill. We can all understand why she was awarded the Skills Builder Award this week! WOW!