

Children in Phase 4 – Years 5 and 6

17th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ramadan Mubarak

The month of Ramadan, the 9th Islamic month, is upon us and I want to take this opportunity to wish you Ramadan Mubarak and best wishes in all your preparations. For our Muslim families, I know this will be a time of excitement and positivity for you and your children. We fully understand this and embrace it as a school community. This month is a wonderful opportunity to uphold good character, to refrain from anti-social behaviour and to strengthen spiritual development and one's relationship with God. Ramadan is a time for striving for the best in all aspects of life.

I wanted to write to you all and outline the plans we are putting into place at Margaret McMillan for this special time. Throughout school we have arranged activities to help children observe and participate in the month of Ramadan that are appropriate to the age of the children. We will support your child to feel part of the Ramadan experience through the curriculum we provide; through activities and class discussions about this special time for Muslims.

Abstinence

During Ramadan adult Muslims are required to fast during the hours of daylight. During summer months the fasts are very long, particularly for primary aged children who are not obliged to fast. However, we recognise that older primary pupils may wish to participate and will try to keep some or part of the days as fasts. This decision is up to you as parents and guardians and I know that you will have thought carefully about whether your child fasts and we will support you in school with your decision. It might be that your child wants to fast for shorter periods and break their fast at lunchtime or they fast on non- school days (weekends and holidays) when they can be supported by their family.

School provision

For children in Y5 and Y6 who are not eating dinner and who wish to fast in school, we will have a dedicated quiet room to go to and children will be supervised by staff members. In order for us to plan for the provision of school lunches it would help us if you would indicate whether your child will be fasting on the attached form. Please see the calendar overleaf. **It is vital that parents inform us if they intend their children to fast whilst at school.** Parents should note that if a child states that they wish to fast without parental consent we could not agree to that. Of course if your child wanted to fast but then needed to eat we would contact you to discuss this and would arrange a meal for them at short notice.

On Fridays during Ramadan we will offer the opportunity for Y6 in the first instance to read Namaz if they wish and we have the opportunity for some Y6 boys and girls to attend Friday Prayers at a local mosque. A separate letter will follow.

With regards to P.E, appropriate P.E activities will be provided to suit the needs of pupils who are fasting.

If you would like to discuss ways in which school can support you please come to speak to the class teacher or a member of the leadership team.

Once again I wish you all a happy and productive month and wish you well in all your devotions.

Kind Regards,



Mrs L Martin Headteacher



Please complete and return this form if you wish your child to fast.

Child's Name _____ Class _____

My child **will be fasting** on the following days –

(Please tick each day your child will be fasting.)

Please note these are possible days of Ramadan – the exact days are not yet known.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
			23/03/22	24/03/23
27/03/23	28/03/23	29/03/23	30/03/23	31/03/23
17/04/23	18/04/23	19/04/23	20/04/23	21/04/23

Signed _____ parent / carer

If we do not have permission, we will be unable to allow your child to fast.

Please return to your child's class teacher by Wednesday 22 March

A separate letter has been sent regarding Jumma Prayer for Y6 Boys and Girls.