



April 2026

Issue #2

Stepney Park Voice

Welcome to the second edition of this year's Stepney Park Voice!

In recent months, we have experienced Ramadan and celebrated Eid al-Fitr.

In Year 6, pupils visited the Saatchi Gallery and made truss bridges in their DT lessons.

Read on to find out about all these things and more!

RAMADAN

by Nusaiba, Ayra and Saara



Ramadan is the 9th month in the Islamic calendar. It is a holy month for Muslims as it is a time when Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. They fast to remember the difficulties of the poor, to strengthen the bond with Allah (God) and prevent immorality and wrongdoings.

Suhoor

Suhoor is the time before we start our fast. There we eat until our hearts content before our fast. After the adhan (call to prayer) starts, we are not allowed to eat any food, including drinks. Times of suhoor can vary depending on what month or season Ramadan is in. This year it is concluded to be at 5:30am.

Iftar

Iftar is when Muslims around the world break their fasts after sunset. Usually, they break their fasts with dates and water as it is sunnah (done by the Prophet S.A.W). After iftar, Muslims can eat anything until the next Fajr.

- رمضان (Ramadan)-

by Safaa 6 Oak

Ramadan is an Islamic month where Muslims fast from morning till sunrise. When it is time to break the fast, they drink water and eat a date. They have a feast known as iftar for breaking the fast and sometimes invite others to eat with them. Fasting is known as sawm which is the second pillar of Islam. People ask why Muslims do this and the reason for this is to strengthen their bond with Allah.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise till sunset and cannot eat or drink during those times. Muslims have this little meal called suhoor or sehri. They would eat until fajr so they wouldn't be hungry while fasting.



Sometimes during iftar, they would give food to their neighbours and family and would invite them over to eat with them.



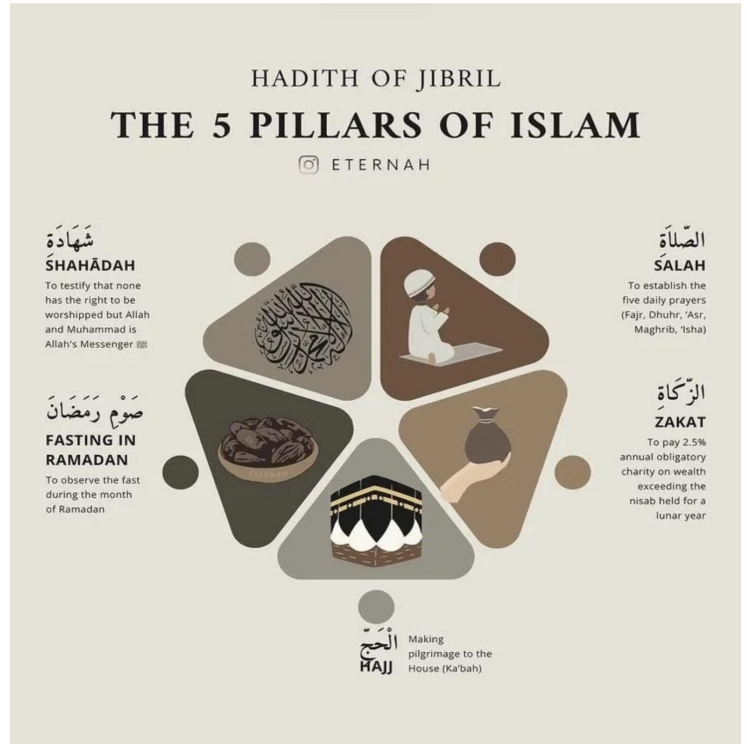
Another fact about iftar is that when it's time to eat (Maghrib) they would eat a date instead of other things like flaming hot Cheeto puffs.

-The five pillars of islam-

by Safaa - 6 Oak

Shahada (1) شهادته

Shadada is the first pillar of islam. It is the declaration of faith and reciting it is the only requirement to enter the faith of Islam.



Salah (2) صلاح

Salah is the second pillar of Islam. It is the daily prayers that Muslims do to strengthen their bond with Allah. They do the following prayers - fajr - dhuhr - asr - maghrib - isha.

الحج (5) Hajj

Hajj is the last pillar of Islam. It stands for pilgrimage. It is done by travelling to the holy place known as Mecca. It must be done once in a lifetime for those who are physically and financially able to.

صوم (3) Sawm

Sawm is the third pillar of islam. It stands for fasting, which is done during the holy month of Ramadan.

زكاة (4) Zakat

Zakat is the fourth pillar of Islam. Zakat stands for charity. It is optional to donate to those in need but whoever does donate usually gives a portion of their wealth.

Eid-al-Fitr

By Aishah 6 Oak

Eid al-Fitr is a major celebration of the end of Ramadan, which is celebrated by Muslims all over the world.



Eid actually isn't on the same day every year on the Gregorian calendar,

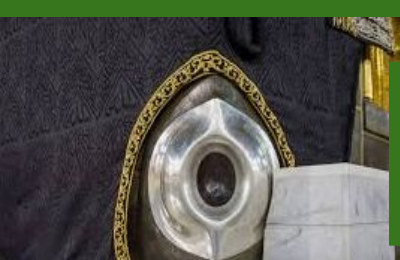
but is on the lunar calendar. It always falls on the first day of Shawwal (the 10 month of the lunar calendar) every year.



Many Muslims spend this day by seeing their families, handing each other presents and wearing new clothing.

It serves as a reward from fasting during the month of Ramadan, spreading joy throughout different families.

As Ramadan started on the 17th of February, Eid - al - Fitr of 2026 is expected to be either on the of the 19th of March or the 20th.



حَجَّ

HAJJ



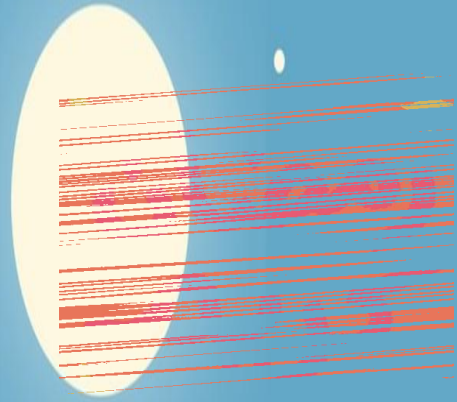
by Saara – 6 Oak

Hajj falls in one of the 4 holy months in the Islamic calendar, Dhul Hijjah. This is when Muslims from around the world gather to perform a religious pilgrimage. However, if they are not able to perform this, it is not obligatory on them. But, if you are able to and are financially able to, then it is obligatory. During this time, Muslims will enter the state of Ihram (a state which Muslims must enter to perform Hajj). This year, it is concluded to fall in May. As of 2025, it is said that over 1,673,320 Muslims had gone to Saudi Arabia had gone to perform Hajj. During Hajj, Muslims will perform Tawaf around the Ka'bah (House of Allah (God)). The way to know you have completed one circulation, is to see the الْحَجَرُ الْأَسْوَدُ (The Black Stone), which is a sacred stone in Islam because during the time of the Prophet Muhammad (saw), the Ka'bah had to be rebuilt and the leaders had an argument and Prophet Muhammad (saw) put a piece of cloth on it and have all the leaders hold a piece of it. During the Tawaf, Muslims will say Labbayka Llāhumma labbayk, labbayk lā sharīka laka labbayk, inna l-ḥamda wa n-ni'mata, laka wa l-mulk, lā sharīka lak. The meaning: At Your service, Allah, at Your service. At Your service, You have no partner, at Your service. There are 3 jamarat that Muslims stone with pebbles: the first one is الصغرى الجمرة (Jamarat al ula), الجمرة الوسطى (Jamarat al wusta), and جمرة العقبة (Jamarat al aqaba). In addition, Muslims will go stay at a set of tents called Mina.



The Islamic celebrations and Facts

By Maryam and Zahra



Celebrations

The Two celebrations in the Islamic culture are called EID. There are two Eids, Eid Al -Adha and Eid Al-Fitr. Before these celebrations we have Ramadan. This is when you fast from dawn to sunset. During this time we cannot eat or drink. Also depending on the moon sightings we can have 29 or 30 days to fast in the month of Ramadan.

In islam we have our own 12 islamic months .

- 1.Muharram(sacred)-The new year
- 2.Safar-The second month
- 3.Rabi' al-Awwal-The birth of the Prophet Muhammad
- 4.Rabi' al-Thani -Also known as Rabi al-Akhir
- 5.Jumada al-Ula-The first Parched land
- 6.Jumada al-Thani-the last Parched land
- 7.Rajab-Respect
- 8.Sha'ban -Scattered
- 9.Ramadan-Scorching heat
- 10.Shawwal-uplifted
- 11.Dhu al-Qa'dah-The month of Truce
- 12.Dhu al-Hajjah-The month of Pilgrimage



THE SAATCHI ART ----- GALLERY -----

Nusaiba/Saara/Ayra/Aishah
6 Oak

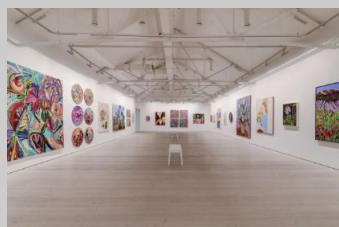
The Saatchi Gallery is in Sloane Square. We went on the District Line from Whitechapel station. Getting off the train, we walked for ten minutes and arrived at our destination. There were many rooms and our class' personal favourites were the tyre room and the maze room. After that, we went to a room where there were a lot of sound animations. We also went to a room where there was a massive pool of black oil, left, right and centre. Then, when we finally got ready to get back to school, we once again took the District Line but got off on Stepney Green station.

Before going there:

What do you think it is going to be like?

“I think it is going to be very interesting.”
-Saara

“I think it is going to be very amusing because I love galleries.”
-Nusaiba



After going there:

How was it?

“Very colourful.”
-Ayra

“Very interactive.”
-Nusaiba

“Amazing experience.”
-Aishah

”It was very fun”
-Saara

-Saatchi gallery-

by Safaa 6 oak

The Saatchi gallery is an art gallery with so many different rooms to see. To get there, you have to take the district line from Stepney Green to Sloane Square. You have to walk a few minutes until you see banners saying "Saatchi Gallery".

There are many different rooms in the Saatchi gallery like the oil room which is VERY interesting as it has recycled black oil in it but there are a few rules for it like not touching it because it is VERY hard to get the oil off, especially if it gets on your clothes. Another interesting room is the tyre room because you can climb the tyres and reach the top. But there is also a rule for the room as well like to not touch the car on top (yes there is a car on top). Another room is the mirror room which is a REALLY fun maze that has mirrors in and has many twists and turns that come along with it.



Design and technology - arched truss bridges

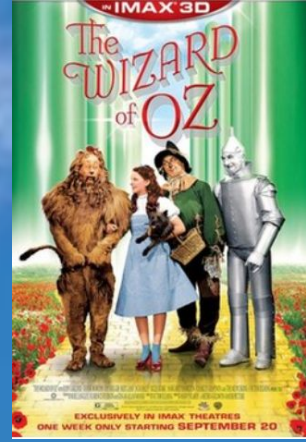
by Khadija 6 Pine



Recently, Y6 has made arched truss bridges. Not real bridges, but small bridges made out of lollipop sticks and hot glue; they were big enough for a teddy bear to cross. We used trusses, which are like triangles, to make it stand up. Trusses are better than squares as if you put the same amount of pressure on both, the square would bend while the triangle would stay the same. We realised that this would be better for our bridges. Also, we added bases to make our bridge stand. In the end, we put 10kg on our bridges, and it remained strong, although some weren't able to withstand the pressure and broke.

New Drama Club

by Khadija 6 Pine



After some recent plays on ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,’ there has been a new drama club which is being lead by Kamran Amin. Charlie and the chocolate factory went well and Y5, Y6 and parents very much enjoyed it. Our new drama club is now bigger and the next play we will be doing is the Wizard of OZ!

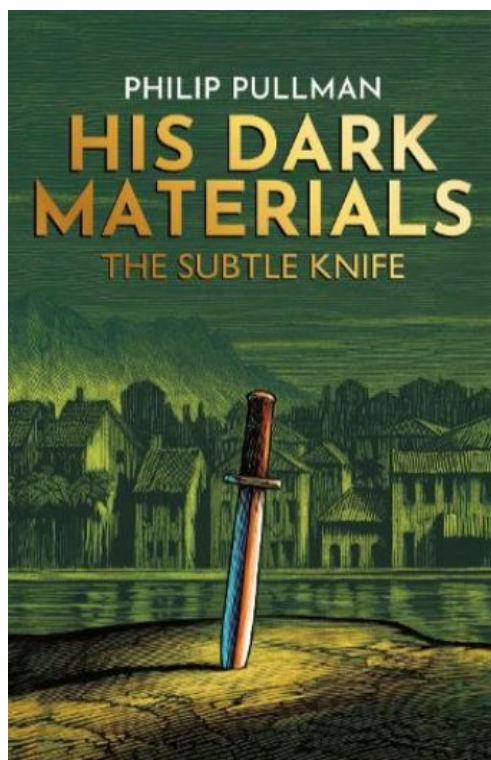
So far, in our first week of drama club, we have done a scenario where a bus driver has a car crash and each person one by one starts to complain to the bus driver. The driver is then meant to say in a formal way that they are sorry. On the second week, we were acting a scene based on the Wizard of Oz.

His Dark Materials: The Subtle knife

by Khadija 6P

This article is about a book called 'The Subtle Knife,' in a trilogy called 'His Dark Materials.' The author is called Philip Pullman; this book is the second book in the series.

Its about a girl named Lyra and a boy named Will. Lyra has a daemon called Pantalaimon, which is just a pet who stays near her all her life. Both the children come from different worlds, and they both have different weapons. Lyra has the althiemeter, which can tell the truth by using dust or dark matter. Will has the subtle knife, a knife, which can open the entries to different worlds.



The behind the scenes of this newspaper-Khadija 6P

Firstly, you may have been intrigued by these articles. But you may ponder, how were they made? This article is all about how they were made.

Firstly, let's talk about the newspaper club. It is on every Monday and we all go to Danny's classroom to type our newspapers on Google slides.

On the first day, we discuss what we're going to write about. We then type it up over a few weeks. When we type our articles, we like to read each others and tell each other if it needs improvement. We can also laugh if a picture is funny.

Hopefully, you'll enjoy the read!

