



*'By making space
for others of
different faiths
and backgrounds
our community is
strengthened'*

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School that Matters: Ramadan Begins

The Muslim period of Ramadan began earlier this week and, as a school that is proud to contain a number of Muslim pupils and families, we made this important time the focus of our assemblies. These were led by Mr. Hussain, Head of Physics, who spoke in depth to pupils throughout the week about the meaning of Ramadan, the ways in which Muslims fast and pray and give to charity during this period and how people manage the demands of Ramadan.

Of course for many pupils, given that Ramadan is something they study in their RE courses, the similarities with Lent did not go unnoticed. The emphasis on giving to others, to improving oneself through self-discipline and denial and on trying to live in a more considered, intentional way all resonate strongly with Catholics and with those of many other faiths.

The purpose of the assemblies was not simply about promoting understanding and awareness of Ramadan, the customs and practices associated with it. The assemblies also serve to remind us all of the strength that there is in difference. That by making space for and giving welcome to young people and families of different backgrounds, faiths and beliefs, our community is stronger. This has clear benefits for the wider community - acceptance, understanding and welcome are all too often in short supply in our world. However, our pupils often reflect that they feel our school, and those who attend here, are very accepting and keen to know more about differences of faith, gender, sexuality and background. This is something we will celebrate further with our International Day later in the year and something that we reinforce through our vision, values and virtues each day. It certainly came through in our recent inspection. Furthermore, a visit this week from the local authority to look at attendance, prompted one visitor to comment on the 'amazing pupils... who articulated their thoughts and ideas so well.'

A piece created by Year 10 student Ellison exploring the 'Natural Forms' topic, using lino print techniques.



Ramadan Mubarak,
Ben Davis, Headteacher

*'Pupils visited
Manchester
Museum to hear
from scientists
about their work*

CALENDAR

**Performance of Macbeth
by pupils at the Contact
Theatre, March 22nd**

**School Closes for
Easter, Thursday, March
28th, 3:15pm**

**Year 8 Parents' and
Carers' Evening, May
16th**

**Year 7 Parents' and
Carers' Evening, June
13th**

**Year 11 Prom, June 27th
Worsley Marriott Hotel
Year Group Leadership**

Year 7
Year Manager: Mr
Healey
(Senior Leader: Mr
Jordan)

Year 8
Year Manager: Mrs
Vincent
(Senior Leader: Mr
Jones)

Year 9
Year Manager: Miss
Moore
(Senior Leader: Mrs
Johnston)

Year 10
Head of Year: Mr.
Pemberton
(Senior Leader: Miss
O'Leary)

Year 11
Head of Year: Miss
Toon
(Senior Leader: Mrs
Tulloch)

Around our School this Week: Highlights

1

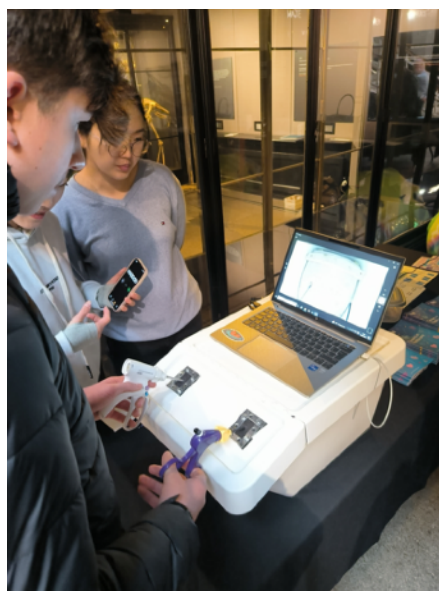
As part of National Science week our students had the opportunity to visit the Manchester Museum where they had the opportunity to meet and talk to current research scientists and PHD students from Manchester University, the Manchester Museum and beyond. They talked about their current areas of research, from cancer research to graphene, the use of lasers and so much more

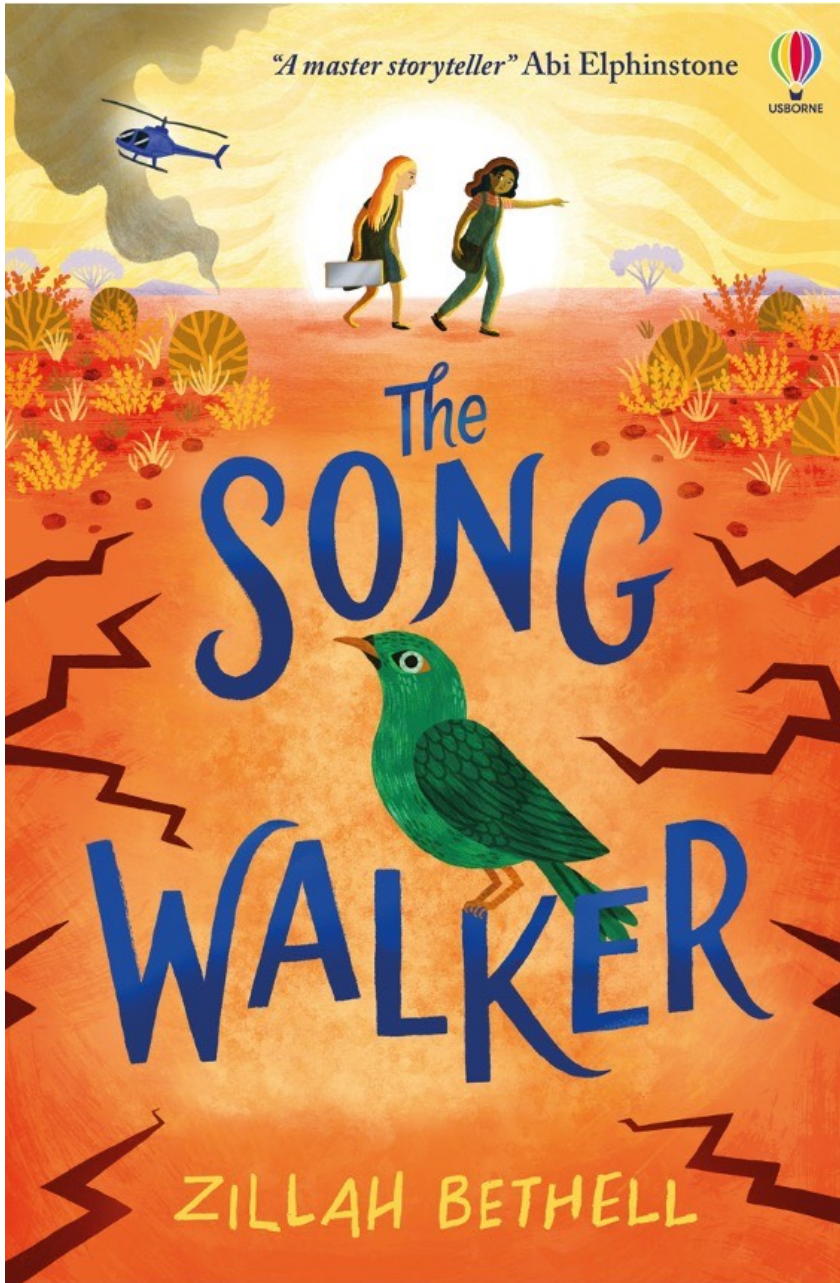
2

We welcomed parents and carers to our Francis Centre for a coffee morning. This allowed families to explore the provision and look at the fantastic work that our pupils have produced in there and in their work around school. The pupils themselves took the lead in welcoming our guests into school.

3

It's been another busy week in sport at our school. The Year 9 netball team were the rally winners! An amazing achievement for the Year 9 netball team - well done girls we are so proud of you! As we go into the summer term there will be even more sport going on and more opportunities for pupils to succeed.





This week's book is *The Song Walker* by Zillah Bethell

An extraordinary new story of friendship, discovery and courage from Zillah Bethell, author of *The Shark Caller*.

"There are three questions that I need to find the answers to:
Where am I?
What am I doing here?
And... Who am I?"

When a young girl wakes up in the middle of the desert, she has no idea who she is. She's wearing one shoe, a silky black dress, and she's carrying a strange, heavy case.

She meets Tarni, who is on a mysterious quest of her own. Together, the two girls trek across the vast and ever-changing Australian Outback in search of answers. Except both are also hiding secrets...
writer of rare and wonderful talent".
From Goodreads. 31st 2024.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We will host a Scholastic Book Fair next week from Tuesday 19 - Friday 22 March in the school library.

Browse the range of books The Book Fair Range here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/tt>

Pupils can use their £1 WBD tokens to get £1 off the cost of the book they buy. Some items of stationery will also be available to purchase. Books can be paid for online at bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay or we can accept cash payments. Pupils will also have the chance to win a £5 voucher to spend at the Book Fair. Prize winners (1 from each year group) will be announced on Friday morning.

The more we sell at the book fair, the more we can earn in rewards (in the form of books) for our school library, so we would be especially grateful for your support..



Key Stage 3 Book Club

Our book club meets at 3:15pm - 4:00pm in the Library every Tuesday.

Having finished 'There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom' by Louis Sachar we have moved on to enjoy the full range of books from the Salford Children's Book Awards short-list.