



4th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

PLACES OF WORSHIP

At Parkland we always try to provide opportunities for pupils to enhance their learning across the curriculum. Where possible we like to offer visits to places the children are learning about or visits from experts and leaders within areas of learning. The study of Religious Education in school gives children an understanding of different faiths and religions, not just their own. To support this we plan to include visits to places of worship and have Faith Leaders come into school to talk to the children. Such visits are valuable in enhancing our school's provision for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, encouraging British Values and preparing pupils for life in modern Britain, with its increasingly diverse communities.

A visit to a place of worship is a fascinating opportunity for the pupils to get an insight into a modern Christian / Muslim / Hindu / Jewish / Buddhist / Sikh community and meet some of the lovely people who live and work there. We hope it will bring pupil's learning to life and allow them to be curious about, and tolerant of, these faiths and their practices.

Religious Education is an academic subject. It is taught as an understanding of different religions and beliefs, from an unbiased perspective. In our view it is an essential part of the curriculum which is becoming more and more important as British society becomes more diverse. We feel strongly that pupils need a good understanding of different cultures, in order to learn respect for others and practice the values of acceptance, respect and unity. As part of these visits, pupils will not be asked to participate in worship; they might watch worship or prayer if it takes place during the visit.

We are really looking forward to these visits, and have been working closely with Faith Leaders to plan an enriching and enjoyable experience that links closely to the curriculum. If you would like to know more about the religions studied at Parkland please look at our website where you will find a breakdown of each of the covered faiths. If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Please find attached a table of planned visits for the academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Bishop
Headteacher

RE planned visits for academic year 2017/2018

Term	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS	- Visit from Christian faith leader. - Visit from Hindu faith leader. - Visit from Buddhist faith leader.		- Visit to a Buddhist Temple. - Visit from Sikh faith leader. - Visit from Buddhist faith leader.	- Visit to a Church. - Visits from Jewish, Islam and Christian faith leaders.		
Year 1	- Visit from Jewish faith leader.			- Visit to a Church.		- Visit to a Synagogue.
Year 2		- Visit to a Church.		- Visit to a Hindu Temple.		
Year 3				- Glencroft Bible exhibition.	- Visit to a Synagogue.	
Year 4				- Visit to a Sikh temple.	- Visit to a Hindu temple.	
Year 5		- Visit to a Church.			- Visit from Islam faith leader.	
Year 6			- Visit to a Church.	- Visit to a Buddhist temple. - Visit from Humanist.		

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