

Year 5 trip to Birchill's Mosque, Walsall

Year 5 from St Leonard's Primary School went on a trip to Birchill's Mosque on Tuesday 6th March 2018. It was a really good opportunity for the children to learn about a different religion and make comparisons to Christianity. The children all learnt loads of different and surprising things, that they didn't know before.

A mosque is a place where Muslims go to pray to their God, Allah. Their religion is called Islam, and Muslims pray 5 times a day. The prayers are called:

- Fajr – Morning prayers
- Zuhr – Early Afternoon
- Asr – Late Afternoon
- Maghrib – Sunset
- Isha – Early Night
- Jumu'ah – This is an extra Friday prayer



Inside the mosque, is a massive hall, which has lots of prayer mats in-these are used for praying on. They also help those attending the prayer session to know how much space to take up. At a mosque you don't just worship, you can also go to school and study Arabic and their holy book which is called the Qur'an. As you walk into the building, you must take off your shoes, and put them on a shoe rack to keep the mosque clean.

When you enter the mosque the rules are:

- Take your shoes off.
- Wear a headscarf or hat.

- Men and women must be separated when they pray.
- Muslims must pray in the direction of Mecca.
- Muslims must wash hands, head and mouth before prayer.

Inside the Mosque, we had a tour around the whole building. It was interesting that Muslims do not display any images of their god. We went in loads of different rooms that were used for Sunday school. After the tour, we were kindly provided with a snack and drink.

Mrs Coleman who organised the visit said, "As I have been quite a few times, I enjoy seeing the friend that I met the first time I went. I also enjoyed learning about the Muslim religion. I learnt when they pray, why they pray and also how they pray."

Jaycob M said, "It was different and I really liked learning about a different religion which is different to mine."

Mrs Dempsey also claimed, "I found it interesting listening to the teacher who told us the creation story."

Ryan F-A stated, "I really enjoyed the tour that they gave us around the mosque. Oh, and also the snacks! I also enjoyed learning how Muslims pray to Allah (Their God).

5EV and 5ST really enjoyed taking a trip to Birchill's Mosque. It was an amazing opportunity that they will remember forever!

This report is written by, Montana M, Chloe S, and Nia S!