



Somers Park School

Email: office@somerspark.worcs.sch.uk
Somers Park Avenue, Malvern, Worcs

Executive Headteacher: Mr. Chris Hansen BEd (Hons) NPQH
Head of School; Mr Byron Williams BEd (Hons) NPQH



Dear parents and carers,

We have had two highlights this week- the first hearing from the children and staff who visited the temple in Birmingham. An absolutely inspiring visit on all counts which has enhanced not only the Year 5 RE curriculum, but significantly the citizenship and values education which runs through all we do. Secondly, our Year 3 Egyptian Museum afternoon was also a great success and exceptionally well supported by parents- we look forward to hearing about the children's favourite bits next week.

Year 5 visit to Balaji Temple

On Tuesday 14th November, Year 5 visited Balaji Temple in Birmingham to enjoy an immersive experience linked to our Hinduism topic. We all learnt amazing facts and deepened our knowledge and understanding of the culture. Here are some of our highlights.

"It was really interesting to see the different ways people were praying within the temples as part of their daily life." Hugo

"I really liked how respectful they are to their gods by taking their shoes off to enter their homes and spending time there." Ellie

"I liked how they welcomed all different religions in Hinduism. They were unique because they had seven different hills for all the other religions." Annabel

"My favourite part was smelling all the different incense sticks in each of the temples." Molly

"I loved listening to all the stories about the Gods and how they all had a moral at the end of them which links to how you lead a good life." Cindy

"I really liked the peace and tranquillity." James

'Today I learned that the Veda's were written in Sanskrit which is the oldest language in the world. The best bit was when we got to see a man praying to a god and singing.' Carys

'I really loved the trip! We learnt about lots of different gods and goddesses but the best bit was putting on the bindi, looking in the shrines of Ganesh and Kartikaya and trying

an Indian sweet made entirely of sugar. I would definitely recommend this experience to others!' Danielle



Year 5 visit to the Balaji Temple

SENCO

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, Miss Edkins is leaving us in January for her maternity leave. We are pleased to inform you that Mrs Simpson will take on Miss Edkins' role as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). In January, both Miss Edkins and Mrs Simpson will undertake the SEN meetings with parents to ensure a smooth and effective handover.



The Balaji Temple

School discos

Next Friday we have the school discos. Timings are as follows.

Year 1, 2, 3	6-7pm
Year 4, 5, 6	7:15-8:30pm



Active discussion in Year 6

Newsletter: Autumn 10
Friday 17th November 2017



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School Improvement Plan

We constantly strive to improve and enhance what we do and how we work in school and therefore regularly review our practice. As a result of these evaluations, our priorities for the coming year have been set and these are set out in a document called the School Improvement Plan.

In evaluating how we are doing we also review last year's School Improvement Plan objectives- a brief summary of this is included below:

2016-2017 objectives:

Priority 1 Review: Teaching and learning

Developments included:

- Greater opportunities for children to write at length and therefore demonstrate their understanding in lessons.
- Development and implementation of a new whole school policy for feedback and marking.
- Consistency in expectation across the school regarding presentation of work.
- Increased understanding of the new curriculum and assessments for English and maths.
- Development of school environment including classroom displays.
- End of Key Stage 1 and 2 data remains better than national averages in all subjects.

Priority 2 Review

Writing and spelling

Developments included:

- Increase in proportion of children working at an average or above spelling age in all year groups.
- Consistency of practice in teacher feedback regarding correction and identification of misspelt words.
- Whole school spelling scheme implemented to ensure smooth progression throughout the school.
- Development of the spelling culture, where children take pride in accurate spelling and work hard to spell words correctly.

Priority 3 Review

Early Years

Developments included:

- Development of a curriculum which prepares children fully for Year 1 education.
- Introduction of the Rainbow Challenge.
- Increase in proportion of children working at a Good Level of Development (GLD) by the end of Reception from 63% (2016) to 85% (2017).
- Narrowing of the gap between of boys and girls who reach GLD significantly

2017-2018 School Improvement Plan objectives have now been set. They are:

2017-2018 objectives:

Priority 1

To raise the achievement of all pupils as an outcome of high quality teaching and effective intervention.

Priority 2

Improve standards in English, specifically reading, spelling and phonics in all phases of the school.

Priority 3

Establish a cohesive, strategic school leadership that drives rapid improvement across the school and wider Trust.

Priority 4

To use the power of pupil voice to develop and embed British Values through the school.

Priority 5

Embed practice introduced to ensure that the proportion of children reaching GLD, ready for learning in KS1, exceeds 85%.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Enjoy your weekend.

Best wishes,

Chris Hansen



Year 3 reading at Malvern Library

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