

DIFFERENT RELIGIONS, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY...

THIS WEEK WE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT DIFFERENT RELIGIONS AND HOW WE
ARE ALL EQUAL



WHAT IS EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY?

- Equality is when all people have the same opportunities no matter their race, gender, religion or thoughts and ideas.
- Diversity is when there is a variety of different people with different faiths, gender and race; we should embrace this.
- To ensure we have equality and embrace diversity we have the Human Rights law; that ensures everyone is equal. But to make sure that works we all need to do our best to show respect and equality to each other.
- Last year, we learnt about the British values, these also ensure we all have equality and embrace diversity if we make sure we follow them and other people do too.



RELIGIONS

- There are several religions in the world such as: Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Islam and many more.
- Even though we have different beliefs and religions, we all have similarities and we are all equal so we should show appreciate diversity and respect each other.
- There are also some people who don't have a religion or who are Humanists: they don't believe in a God but believe that we should do good in life like volunteer for local charities. They also think we are all equal.

THINK ABOUT

- Do you respect other peoples talents? How?
- When you work together as a team, how do you appreciate others?
- What does the word equal mean to you?
- Why do we need diversity?

LOOK AT THESE PICTURES...

- How do they show equality?
- How do they show diversity?
- How do they make you feel?
- What would the world be like if everyone was the same?
- How do people not showing equality and diversity make you feel?



RAMADAN

All religions and cultures have celebration; Ramadan is a religious festival and is celebrated by Muslims all over the world.

It is when the Muslim God, Alah, started to reveal the Qur'an to the prophet Muhamed Peace be upon Him. The Qur'an is the Muslims sacred book. To Celebrate they have an extra Prayer time and go to the Mosque and they also show compassion to the poor by fasting in the daytime. They get up before sunrise to have a meal and then have another meal in the evening. Children don't need to fast until 14.

It lasts a month, this year starting on the 10th of March and ends on the 9th of April when they have a huge celebration called Eid-Al-Fiter where they get presents and have a big meal.



THINK ABOUT...

- What does Ramadan remind you of in Christianity?
- How would you feel if you had to fast for a Month?
- Would it be hard?
- How can we show respect to Muslims in Ramadan?

CHINESE NEW YEAR...

- Not only religions have festivals, different cultures have too:
- in China they have a different New year: Chinese New year or Lunar New year. This is on the 10th of February and its celebrations last 15 days.
- Lunar New year comes from an old tale of a monster who lived in the wilderness. Though, on the darkest night of the year, (Chinese New year) he would come out and scare everyone. So everyone was terrified of the that night until one day a wise old man told everyone what the monster was scared of: fire, loud noises, and the colour red.
- The next time he came they wore red, had fire lanterns and banged on drums and the monster ran away and never came back again. From that night people celebrate the new moon instead of fearing it.
- To celebrate Chinese people eat lots of food and have big parades, with fireworks and spend time with family.

THINK ABOUT...

- Why do you think it is called Lunar New Year as well as Chinese New year?
- Do you think it is good to have cultural celebration as well as religious?
- How can we show respect to the Celebration of Chinese New year?
- By participating perhaps?

NOW WE WILL LISTEN TO A POEM ON EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY...

All the world's a stage!

(Diversity poem)

Are all the creatures of the sea the same?
A similar size and colour and name?
Dive into the oceans in a yellow submarine.
And discover a world, an incredible dream.

Green Sea turtles and Royal starfish.
Mythical mermaids, granting a wish.
Turquoise corals, clinging to their reef.
Hammerhead sharks sharpening their teeth.


*'All the world's a stage!' said William Shakespeare.
It doesn't matter how you sound or how you appear.
We're all very different, just spirits in disguise.
Sharing Mother Earth, like clouds sharing skies.*



THINK ABOUT...

- How did the poem make you feel?
- What is the meaning of the poem?
- How does the poem reflect on diversity?

NOW WE WILL SAY A PRAYER



Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves.
Amen.

An extract from Pope Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti