Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	RE	YEAR 2	TERM 6

WHAT? – Key Knowledge

Islam – Hajj

Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?

A **pilgrimage** is a journey to a religious place. It is different to going on holiday. The people who go on these special journeys are called '**pilgrims**'.

Muslims live by the **Five Pillars of Islam**, which are rules to live a good Muslim life. One of these pillars or rules is going on a pilgrimage to **Mecca**, in Saudi Arabia.

This special pilgrimage is called **Hajj** and takes place every year. Every adult Muslim, who is physically and mentally fit and can afford it, needs to make the pilgrimage at least once in a lifetime.

Hajj can only be taken in **Dhul-Hijjah**, the twelfth month of the Muslim calendar.

Before reaching Mecca, all pilgrims must wash and put on special clothes.

The pilgrims visit the **Ka'bah** in **Mecca** and walk around it seven times anticlockwise to show that their world revolves around **Allah**. This is called **tawaf.**

Muslims also try to touch the black stone at the bottom of one of the **Kab'ah's** corners.

They run between two mounts called **Safa and Marwah**.

The pilgrims go to the plains of Mount Arafat to stand in vigil and spend a night on the plain of **Muzdalifah**.

They camp in **Mina** and throw seven small stones at three stone pillars, which symbolise the devil.

Pilgrims wear white seamless garments called **ihram** to show that all people are equal, whether rich or poor.

Lastly, the pilgrims go home or visit **Madinah,** the burial place of the **prophet** Muhammad.

WHAT? – Key vocabulary

Pilgrimage – a special journey to a religious place.

Pilgrims – people who go on a special journey to a religious place.

Pillars of Islam - are the five obligations that every Muslim must satisfy in order to live a good and responsible life according to Islam.

Mecca - the holy city of Islam in Saudi Arabia

Allah - the Arabic name that Muslims use for God.

Hajj – the religious journey to Mecca that all Muslims try to make at least once in their life.

Prayer (*salat*) - Muslims pray facing Mecca five times a day

Dhul-Hijjah – the twelfth month of the Muslim Calendar.

Ka'bah – the cube shaped building in the middle of the Great Mosque in Mecca.

Tawaf - the ritual of going round the the Ka'bah seven times as part of the Hajj in Mecca

Safa and Marwah - are two small hills now located in the Great Mosque of Mecca

Alms (*zakat*) - Muslims donate a fixed portion of their income to community members in need

Great Mosque - Muslim place of worship at Mecca

Muzdalifah – a plain where Muslims spend the night

Mina - a campsite in the desert nine miles from Mecca; pilgrims throw stones at the three pillars here

Ihram - white seamless garments that Muslims wear during Hajj.

Madinah – city where the Prophet Muhammad is buried.



The Stoning of the Devil



Mina – camping site for pilgrims

The Great Mosque at Mecca



Possible experiences:

- Packing a suitcase to go on a special trip.
- Clips to support the teaching of Hajj:
- Day 1 of Hajj www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zx8n34j
- Day 2 of Hajj www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zpqvcdm
- Day 3 of Hajj www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zvt4wmn
- Talk to an expert about their experience of Hajj

Learning outcomes:

I can tell you about a special journey and why it was special to me.

I can remember some of the events that happen during Hajj and start to explain why these are important to Muslims.

I can start to think about the significance of Hajj to a Muslim.

Diagrams and symbols





Safa and Marwah - two hills at Mecca



Kab'ah – the cube shaped building in the middle of the Great Mosque in Mecca.



Ihram – white robes worn by pilgrims.





Map of Saudi Arabia



Plain of Arafat showing the 'Mount of Mercy'