Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	RE: Sikhism	YEAR 5	TERM 3

Key Knowledge

Area of focus: Believing and Belonging

Key question: Are Sikh stories important today?

Sikh stories are several hundreds of years old. Many are still important to Sikhs today; they include examples of how to behave and were told by the Gurus which means they are significant.

The Guru Granth Sahib

- The tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, said he would be the last living Guru and so after him Sikhs should look to their holy book for guidance.
- The Guru Granth Sahib is the name of the Sikh Holy Book and is treated as the living Guru of the Sikhs.
- It contains poetry which is often set to music.
- It is protected under a special canopy in the Gurdwara and is covered with special cloths called the rumalla when it is not in use.
- When in presence of the holy book, Sikhs take their shoes off and never turn their back on the scriptures.
- During festivals, the holy scriptures are read continuously from beginning to end which takes about 48 hours.
- During these readings, a chauri (ceremonial whisk) is waved over the scriptures as a sign of respect for the living Guru.

Key vocabulary

- **Guru** – Teacher: used in Sikhism to refer to the ten human Gurus and Guru Granth Sahib.
- **Guru Granth Sahib** – Sikh Holy Book that gives guidance on how Sikhs should lead their lives. It is considered as the living Guru (teacher).
- **Khalsa** – The Sikh community.
- **Guru Nanak** – The first Guru and founder of the Sikh faith (1469-1539).



Guru Granth Sahib



Milk and Jasmine Flower

The Milk and the Jasmine Flower

- Guru Nanak was travelling in India with his companion Mardana.
- They arrived at a city and the holy men in the city were worried to hear Guru Nanak was visiting. The people of the city had been greedy and unkind and they knew the guru was a good man and had promised to be like him.
- They were afraid to let him into the city so sent a messenger with a bowl of milk to say there was no room in city and that the city was as full as the bowl.
- Guru Nanak thanked the messenger and picked a flower from a nearby bush which he placed on top of the milk. He said there would always be room in the world for more goodness.
- The flower floated and the milk did not split – there was room for it.
- The messenger returned to the city and told the holy men what happened. They felt guilty and asked the messenger to welcome the guru into the city.
- The people apologised and gave a warm welcome. Guru Nanak believed everyone is equal, whether they are rich or poor.

Bhai Lalo and Malik Bhago

- Guru Nanak was near one village, and felt tired and hungry from travelling so stayed there for a few days.
- Lalo, a poor carpenter invited him to stay at his house and Nanak happily accepted.
- A rich man named Malik Bhago heard Guru Nanak was visiting and sent his servants to invite Nanak to stay with him instead.
- He thought the guru would rather stay with him than in a poor man's home and said he would host an enormous feast for all important people in the village.
- Many people attended the feast but Nanak didn't arrive. This angered Malik Bhago who sent his servants to find Nanak.
- They found him at Lalo's house and Nanak agreed to go to Malik Bhago's feast where a large crowd had gathered.
- Malik Bhago met Nanak and asked why he had refused to attend his feast, he explained he had rich food for him.
- Guru Nanak asked for a piece of cake. He took a piece of Lalo's bread from his bag and squeezed them both.
- To the crowd's surprise, milk trickled from the bread and blood dripped from the cake.
- Malik Bhago said it was a trick but Guru Nanak said the bread was earned by honest work whereas the cake and wealth were from cheating the poor.
- Malik Bhago felt ashamed of how he had lived and changed his ways to follow Guru Nanak's teachings.

Learning outcomes

I can explain how some stories can teach people about what is important and how to behave.

I can recognise that stories can be an important way of expressing belief and meaning and can explain the relevance of a Sikh story.

I can explain how some stories can teach Sikhs about what is important in life and relate this to non-Sikhs.

Possible experiences:

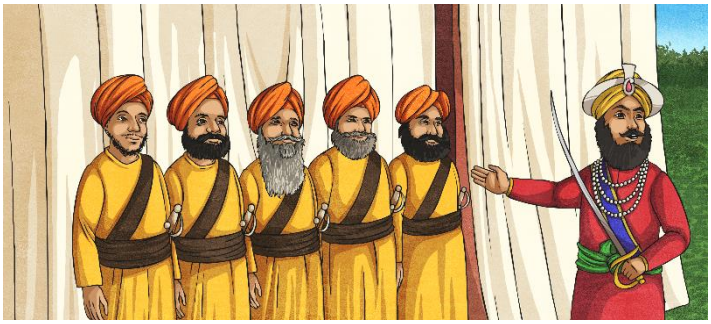
A visit from someone in the Sikh community to discuss the stories and their thoughts on them.

Drama activities exploring the Sikh stories.

Information and clip art resources are from Discovery RE and Twinkl.

Vaisakhi

- Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, chose to establish the Khalsa, meaning "pure ones". The Guru came out of a tent carrying a sword and asked anyone who was prepared to give his life for his religion to come forward.
- One Sikh came forward and followed the Guru into the tent. The Guru came back alone, with his sword covered in blood. He asked for another volunteer.
- This continued until five men had gone into the tent. The Guru emerged with all five Sikhs who were dressed in yellow and wearing turbans. Guru Gobind Singh called the five Sikhs the Panj Pyare (the Five Beloved Ones).
- The Panj Pyare were baptised into the Khalsa community in a ceremony using amrit (holy water mixed with a steel sword).
- After the baptism, the Guru said "Where there are Panj Puare, there am I." They were the first members of the Khalsa. He then gave the Khalsa a unique identity with 5 special symbols (the 5Ks).



Guru Nanak and the Cobra

- When Nanak was a child he had spent time thinking about God and later fell asleep under a tree where there was shade from the sun.
- As the day passed, the sun moved and Nanak's face was in the sun. His skin was going to burn.
- A cobra with a huge hood saw Nanak. He noticed the child was no longer in the shade and spread his hood to shade him from the sun.
- While this was happening, the head of the village came riding by on a horse. He was worried Nanak was about to be bitten by the huge cobra.
- As he got nearer, he noticed that the child was still asleep and the cobra looked like it was meditating. He noticed the cobra was protecting Nanak from the sun. He couldn't believe how beautiful and precious this moment was.