

ST. EDMUND'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER CHRISTMAS 2014

Religious Education

Imam Visit

Wednesday 5th November, St Edmund's Year 11 had the privilege to welcome a local Muslim leader Mr Dattoo into our school to support learning in Religious Education. The lesson was very engaging and interesting. Many pupils interacted with him and gained in their understanding of medical ethics from a Muslim viewpoint. This extra support will no doubt aid students in their GCSE Religious Studies exam. After speaking to the pupils, they remarked on the value of the lesson and how it helped them to understand Islamic teaching further.

Mr C. A Nicol



Here is what some of our Year 11 pupils thought about the visit:

On the afternoon of the 5th November, our Religious Education class was lucky enough to receive a visit from Mr Dattoo, the Imam of the Al Mahdi Mosque in Fareham. At the time we were studying Unit 3 of our GCSE Course Religion ("Religion and Medicine"), which includes topics such as; abortion, euthanasia and IVF. Mr Dattoo very graciously shared the Islamic viewpoint on select topics from this unit. The lesson proved to be both very interesting and valuable, not just for us but also for Mr Dattoo, as our questions challenged his understanding of his faith. We had many misbeliefs about Islam that were dispelled, such as the misconception that Muslims are completely against abortion in all cases.

It was also useful in real life, as in an increasingly multicultural society, it has become vital to be aware of the beliefs of other religions. To be informed of other religious teachings, allows for greater understanding and respect for individuals in work.

Understanding other cultures and comparing them with Christian/Catholic beliefs is a key part of our RE learning.

We would like to thank Mr Dattoo, for not only giving us this opportunity, but also for opening our minds and broadening our knowledge of the Islamic faith.

Tahir Kanani and Lois Harvey-Pescott