

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

**Dear Parents, carers and friends of Madni**

A very warm welcome to those parents who join us for the first time. It has been a busy start to the Academic year here at Madni Early Years as you will see there has been lots going on . It is fantastic to see the energy and excitement the little ones have for learning each morning . Learning has to be a partnership between home and the setting, JazakA... to those mums who attended the phonics workshop we held and we hope to see more of you at future workshops. Your involvement in your child's learning can make such a huge difference to their learning. Watch out for details of further workshops planned in the Spring Term.

**Shakera Mirza Headteacher )**

We have had a very busy Autumn term in the Early Years. Children have settled in well into their classes and have had lots of fun exploring and learning new things. Some of the topics we have covered this term include Autumn, Dark and Light, Diwali, Manners and the 5 Pillars of Islam. A big Jazakallah for all the support we have received this term from parents.



#### **Weather Notice**

As the weather gets colder we request parents to send their child in with a suitable winter coat and footwear as well as hats, gloves and a scarf.

#### **Spare clothes**

Could parents of children in the Nursery and 2 year old group please bring in a pair of spare clothes for their child and nappies and wipes if needed.



#### **Breakfast Club Notice**

Breakfast club is open to all children in the Early Years from 8.30 and there is a nominal fee of £1.00 per day. We would like to stress that even if your child is not eating breakfast during this time, there is still a cost of £1.00.



#### **Attendance**

Attending school is important for every child. Could you please ensure that your child attends school regularly. In the event of your child being ill or not being able to attend, please inform the setting.

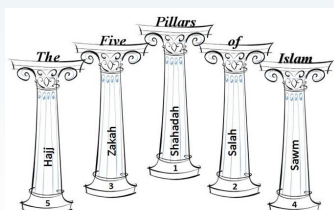
This term the children have been learning about Autumn and Winter. We explored the local area observing the changes in the environment around us and have been understanding Hibernation and what this means for animals during these seasons. Children went for a walk around the canal area and had great pleasure in finding the leaves which had already changed colour and collected conkers. In relation to our seasons topic we have had a visit to the Dewsbury Library. We were welcomed into the library by Kate and Jason who very kindly spent the afternoon reading and delivering fun activities around the book 'The Red Hen' The children were entertained with animal inspired nursery rhymes.

If you have had a look in the setting recently you will have noticed we have transformed our humble home corner into a winter space for the children. We spent our afternoon making snowflakes, snowmen and a giant igloo.

Learning about seasons helps children understand about the changes in time and the subtle changes such as food, animals and weather. We appreciate those parents who embraced the topic and spent weekends talking and encouraging their children to explore their local areas. Next term we will focus on Spring and the many topics which are linked to the season such as ,growing, planting, the life cycle of the butterfly, frog and chickens. We plan to get chicks again which our children enjoyed immensely last year.



Our Thaleem topics which we have covered this term have been good manners and the 5 Pillars of Islam. The children have embraced Thaleem very well and have memorised many Dua's already such as, the Morning Dua, Sleeping dua, 5 Kalimahs, Knowledge dua and Duood Sharif. A massive well done to those children who have tried very hard all term to memorise them so well. As we have been learning about the 5 Pillars we have spent one week on each pillar, we have encouraged children to carry out mini projects. For Zakaat we asked children and parents if they could donate something as small as a unwanted toy and we would give it into Um-mah Welfare Trust. Jazakallah to the parents and children who took out their time to donate items. We also carried out a mini Hajj demonstration so children could understand how Hajj is performed.



We ended the term with an exciting trip to 'The Zone' in Huddersfield. We chose to use public transport to take the children there and back. We are super proud of the children as they behaved exceptionally well on the bus. Raising awareness of road safety and public transport to the children is very important, and all the children displayed a really good understanding of this.

Also a really big Jazakallah to all parents for creating amazing space themed outfits for our 'space day' the children looked absolutely amazing and we had a fantastic day.

The reception children have been learning about Harvesting and the importance of the hard work farmers do to grow vegetables and crop. As part of the topic children read the book 'The Enormous Turnip' which helped children gain a better understanding of growing and planting vegetables. Children also had the experience of holding a turnip and a pumpkin. In Nursery children have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and have been reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.



We have had great fun baking this term. Children had a go at making shortbread biscuits which everybody had fun making.

This term the 2 Year olds have been introduced to the colours red, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink and purple. They have created amazing pieces of work which have been displayed in the corridors. Colouring and mark making helps children develop and strengthen hand muscles and encourages fine motor skills. It develops coordination for early writing skills and teaches children correct finger gripping techniques.



Space and Planets has been at the centre of Early Years learning during the second half term. Children have got messy with Papier-Mache as they made the planets and the sun, and painted them to hang in the classroom. We also created the stages of the moon using Oreo cookies, which the children found highly entertaining as well as tasty!

Children created a fruit rocket with strawberries, blueberries and grapes which they took home and had a chance to taste blueberries which many hadn't tried before.

As part of the Space topic we have focused many of the Literacy lessons on the book 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy and Toys In Space. We have created lists and imagined what we would take to the moon with us. We had some really great work from the children who had a good time using their imagination.





## Jolly Phonics Programme Workshop

We held a workshop for parents in the Early Years to share the Jolly phonics programme which we are following this year. Learning sounds is the base of the programme, and each sound has a rhyme to help children remember the sound. We want to thank the parents who attended the workshop and took part. There was very positive feedback from parents on the workshop. We are very happy to say that the children have enjoyed learning through the rhymes and have made tremendous progress so far. Also a massive Jzk to all parents who have supported their children through homework as this helps and encourages children in their learning.



### Diwali

In the Early Years we have been teaching children about the different religions and the different festivals people celebrate. We linked our Dark and Light topic to the festival of Diwali and talked about the importance of Diwali for those who celebrate it. Children sculpted their own candle holders and made lanterns in relation to the two topics. Understanding and learning about other religions and cultures allows children to become more tolerant towards difference and teaches respect to others.



### Coffee Afternoon

A huge Jzk to all the mothers that attended the Early Years Coffee Afternoon. It was heart-warming to see so many mums take a positive interest in the future of our setting. Items on the agenda included: highlights of the Autumn term and sharing our priorities for the academic year. Generally there was very positive feedback from mums on the development of the setting and parents commended staff on the positive effect the daily Thaleem is having on children.

This term we have been focusing on calmness and relaxation through exercise through Yoga. Children gain many benefits from Yoga such as, strength, coordination and body awareness. Moreover their concentration and sense of calmness improves. Everyone has really embraced the idea of taking part in Yoga and look forward to it every week.

Children have had fun experimenting with clay and have attempted to make their own slime. We made the children's handprints in the clay which the children decorated with paint and glitter and took home. They enjoyed making their own slime with glue, contact lenses solution and baking soda. It was a great experience for the children to get creative and messy and exploring with different textures.

