

ATAM NEWS

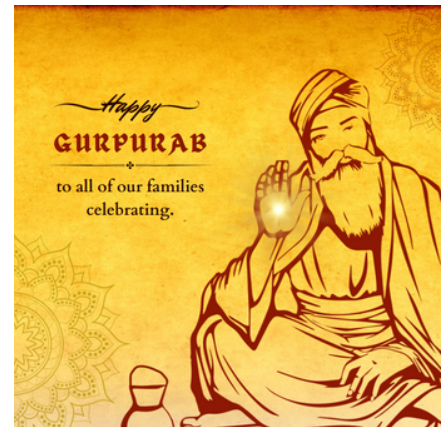


Autumn Term 2: 14th November 2024

Dates for your diary:

SAVE
THE DATE

- 15th November 2024- Gurburab Day (Academy Closed)
- 19th November 2024- Year 11/12 Trip to Tottenham Hotspurs
- 19th-20th November 2024- Year 3 RE Trip
- 22nd November 2024- Gurburab Drop Down Day (whole school)
- 23rd November 2024- Nishan Sahib Seva
- 25th-29th November 2024- Year 6 Mocks
- 27th November 2024- Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening



KHALSA SIXTH

OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 17th December 5-7pm

Discover what makes us unique, meet our dedicated team, and explore our facilities. It's the perfect opportunity to ask questions, get a feel for our community, and see how we can support your goals. We look forward to welcoming you!

Ofsted
Good
Provider

Tel: 020 8252 9831

info@atamacademy.com

Little Heath, Romford, Chadwell Heath, RM6 4XX

PROUDLY PART OF THE KHALSA ACADEMIES TRUST



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ariya Punia - Year 8, Navneet Punia - Year 7, Fateh Punia - Year 4 and Ekamkar Singh - Year 5 for getting over 40 medals with Southern England School of Karate at Atam Academy, in both external and internal competitions in 2024.

PRIMARY



EYFS

Children in the nursery have continued with their topic on Homes. They created their own homes using junk modelling. Listened to relevant stories e.g. The Tiger Who Came to Tea!

Since last week they have made a fireworks display. We spoke about safety. This Monday children took part in Remembrance day. They created some poppy flowers, discussed what happened on this day. Children also made Gurpurab cards to celebrate the birth of Guru Nanak Dev ji. They took part in listening to where Guru ji was born (Nankana Sahib).

Those who are celebrating Gurpurab, Happy Gurpurab to you and your family.



PRIMARY



Sikh Studies- Year 5

Year 5 have been looking at the topic of 'The Sikh Way of Life'. We have looked at understanding Maryada, the purpose of life as a Sikh and the topic of the atma (soul). The children have delved into these very deep and complex topics through discussion and we have used Gurbani to find the answers to our questions.



Year 2 Update

This week in English, we have introduced our new book 'Emperor's Egg'. We looked at the front cover and made suitable predictions. We have been learning new vocabulary around this book.

In Music, we've begun to practice the songs for our nativity!

We are continuing to recite the Mool Mantar repetitively as part of our preparations for the upcoming Mool Mantar competition. Not only are we aiming to win, but the recitations have also been a fantastic way for the children to calm down and focus before learning time. In the photo you can see a santhea lesson where children are learning the 'kanna' sound.

In assembly this week, we discussed the feeling of anxiety as part of our safeguarding awareness. In Maths, we have moved on to our topic of addition and subtraction. We are looking at number bonds to 20 and fact families. There are lots of games to support this such as 'Topmarks'. Please encourage your children to consolidate their learning.

Remember to hear your child read out aloud every day, ask them questions and record they have read in the reading records each day. This will help your child improve their reading and move up reading bands. It has been great to see the support given for children in need today. The year 2 team wish you a wonderful weekend.

Thank you for your continued support - we look forward to sharing more of our learning journey with you soon!



PRIMARY



Reception

This week, we have been reading the story of The Scarecrows Wedding. The children enjoyed using puppets to retell the story, they designed their own scarecrow and used the initial sounds to write lists and we looked at numbers 1-3.

We have also discussed Remembrance Day and Children in Need.

Wishing our families celebrating, a Happy Gurpurab!



French Update



Year 3: Pupils have learned how to say what they have in their pencil case and what colour their pet is.

Year 4: Pupils have learned how to talk about the seasons and what they do in each season.

Primary Head Coverings

We kindly ask that all primary children bring their own labelled head coverings for Santhiya and Spiritual Assembly. These can be safely stored in their trays at school. Thank you for your cooperation in supporting this important aspect of our spiritual practice.

PRIMARY

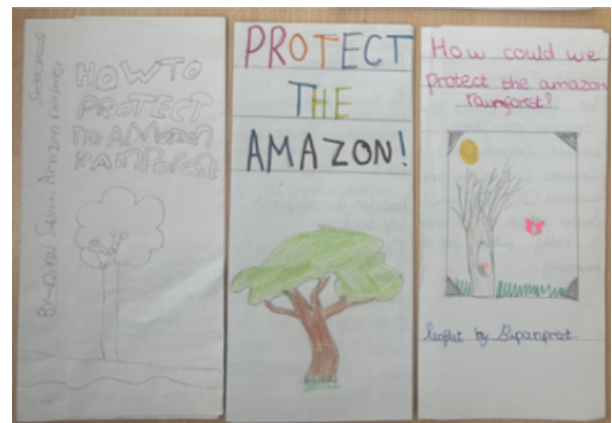


Year 6

In our Geography lessons, the children have been delving into the wonders of the Amazon Rainforest. They have been researching where the Amazon is located, its rich biodiversity, and how various animals have uniquely adapted to thrive in such an environment. This exploration not only enhances their understanding of geography but also sparks curiosity about the natural world and the importance of conservation.

In addition, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the children for their hard work and dedication during their SATs preparations. We have successfully completed learning all four mathematical operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. We are now moving forward with a focus on fractions, a key topic that builds on their foundational skills and prepares them for more complex problem-solving.

A special thank you goes out to the parents who joined us for the recent SATs parent information evening. Your involvement and support mean a great deal to both the teachers and the students. It's wonderful to see such strong partnerships as we navigate this crucial stage of the academic year.

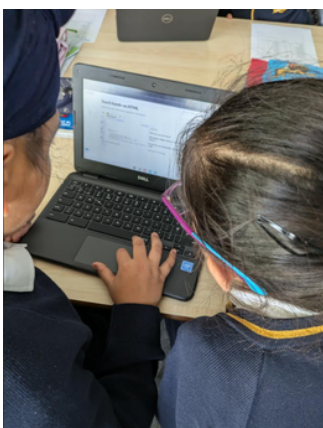


Year 4

Year 4 are looking at HTML in their computing lessons. They have been learning how to code and this week, they were attempting to change the coding on a website.

We have some future coders in year 4!

In Geography, we have been looking at North American states and South American countries using google and atlases!



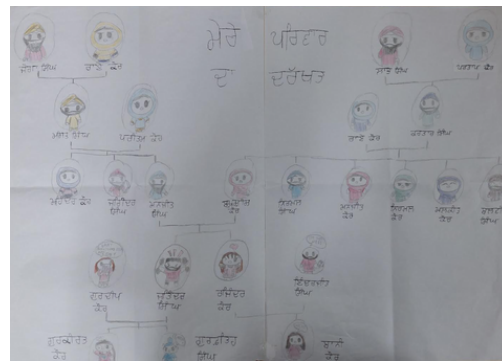
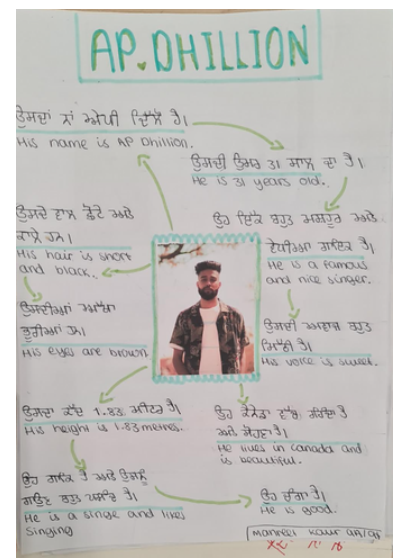
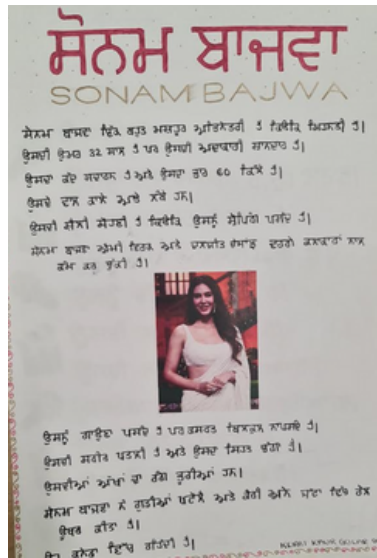
SECONDARY/ KVI



Panjabi Update

Over the half term Year 7 children created Diwali and Bandi Chor cards in Panjabi. Well done to all the children who put in the extra effort to create their beautiful cards - it was very difficult to choose our favourites!

Over the half term period, KS3 classes were set work to reinforce learning that had taken place in Autumn 1. Year 8 created family trees with Family names written in Panjabi and Year 9 created posters on their favourite Panjabi celebrities.



bonjour

French Update

merci

Year 7: Students have learned how to talk about pets and school subjects.

Year 8: We have started a new module that will take us on a virtual tour around Paris. Students have practiced past tense verbs.

Year 9: In the first few weeks of this half term, we have been focusing on sport and what it takes to be a good player. Students have completed spoken and written tasks on this topic.

Year 10: We have started module 2 of our GCSE book and students have completed the first two topics: sport and music.

Year 11: Students have completed their mock speaking exams and we have started our last module from the French GCSE course book.

Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

Students across year 10 took part in the first stage of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. All students demonstrated resilience/ chardi kala and courage/ himmat in their speeches and presentations. We are proud to announce that the following students will progress to the next round of delivering their speeches in assembly:

- Devika Ramasamy 10M
- Mia Tomety 10T
- Aaliyah Armaah 10A

SECONDARY/ KVI



Homework Club

We will be opening homework club every day after school for secondary students. This is voluntary and will be located in the ICT room 230. Bookings for homework club are the same as for all other clubs. Pupils can also attend on an ad hoc basis if they have a parental note in their planner. For year 11s who have interventions that start at 4pm, they must attend homework club in the gap between the end of the school day and their intervention start time.



ClassCharts

Detentions

A reminder that if your child is late to school in the morning, they will receive a 20 minute lunchtime late-detention to serve on the same day.

Any other detentions logged on Class Charts that are 15-30 minutes will be served on the same day that it was logged. 60 minute detentions logged will be served the following day, and 90 minute SLT detentions are served on Fridays.

Please ensure you have logged in to Class Charts as a parent/carer to ensure you receive the updates.

Mobile Phones



We would like to remind all parents and students of our school's mobile phone policy. Students are required to keep their phones switched off and stored in their school bags throughout the school day. The use of mobile phones during school hours is strictly prohibited. If a student needs to contact their parents, they must do so through the school's reception using the school telephone. Similarly, if parents need to reach their child during school hours, they should contact the school via telephone or email. **Please note that any student found using their phone during the day, or keeping it in their blazer or trouser pockets, will have their phone confiscated. In such cases, parents will be asked to collect the phone from the school.** The pastoral and SLT teams will be conducting spot checks to ensure all students are complying with the school rules. The same rules apply to air pods/ ear buds, and a further reminder that smart watches are banned.

Kara/ Salahee

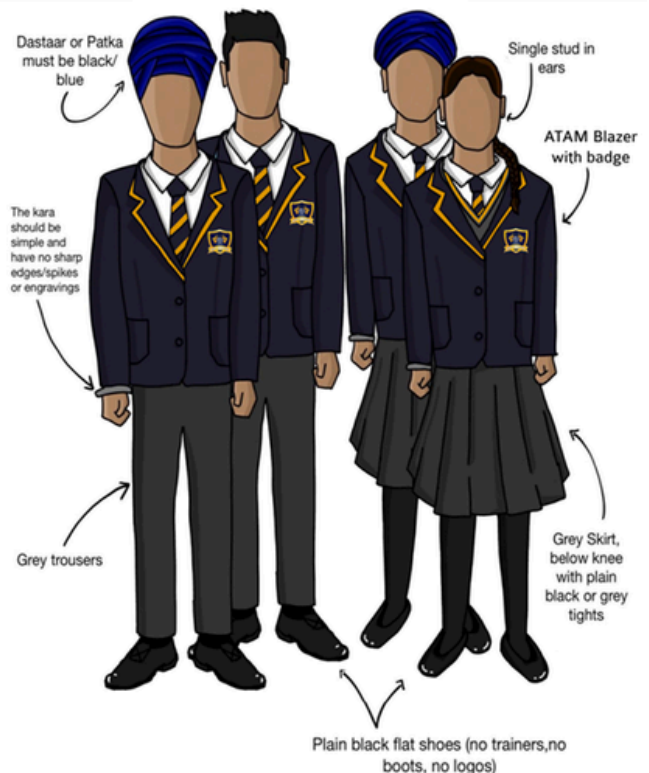


Please be reminded that for health and safety reasons, students must wear a Kara no wider than 1cm. Additionally, the Salahee (hair tidy) must be kept in school bags and should not be tucked into the Patka or Dastaar, or kept in blazer pockets. These measures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Uniform



All students must have the correct uniform on, when in school. They must ensure that they are not wearing excessive jewellery, artificial nails, nail polish and make up is prohibited. Students who do not comply, will have items confiscated and will be asked to remove make-up and nail polish. Skirt lengths must also be knee-length. If there is a reason for your child to be missing an item of their uniform, please write a note in their planners explaining this.



ATAM ACADEMY



BASKETBALL, GYM AND GYMNASTICS!



Junior NBA back with a boom!

The Year 7 girls' Junior NBA team had an exciting start to their season, playing two matches that showcased both skill and teamwork. In the first match, the team demonstrated strong defense and passing skills, building confidence as they took on challenging opponents. Their second game saw an improvement in coordination and scoring opportunities, reflecting their progress and dedication in training. Overall, these two matches set a promising foundation for the season and gave the team valuable experience on the court.

Gym sessions for Health and fitness Year 10 cohort



As part of their Year 10 Health and Fitness course, students will be attending the gym every Friday. This practical experience is designed to help them apply fitness concepts covered in class, develop their personal exercise routines, and improve overall strength and endurance in a structured, supportive environment.

ATAM ACADEMY



BASKETBALL, GYM AND GYMNASTICS!



Flag Football at ATAM

Last week in PE, Year 7 used vortexes to practice transferable skills that are essential in flag football and the NFL. Skills like throwing accuracy, hand-eye coordination, and catching technique were developed as pupils learned to control their throws and adjust their movements to catch successfully. These skills are directly relevant to flag football, where players need precision and timing to pass and receive effectively. Practicing with vortexes gives students a solid foundation to build on as they prepare for more complex team games.

Primary Gymnastics Class



We're thrilled to announce the launch of our new primary school gymnastics club! The response from students has been fantastic, with high enthusiasm and participation levels. This club offers pupils a wonderful opportunity to develop physical skills, confidence, and coordination in a fun, supportive environment. We're excited to see the progress students will make as they explore gymnastics together.



PASTORAL NOTICES



Year 7

A huge well done to Seerat in 7A, for showing resilience and applying yourself to all your subjects! Keep up the fantastic work!



Year 8 Shout Out

A huge well done to Vishal Patel 8S, for always having his uniform on correctly and doing the right thing! Keep up the excellent efforts- it is not going unnoticed!



Year 9 Shout-Out

A huge well done to Chanmeet Singh 9M for always demonstrating dharam (righteousness), by always making the right choices and excelling in her assessments!



Homework Planners

Students are expected to have their homework planners with them everyday in school, and must fill out homework in their planners daily. Resources and instructions will also continue to be shared on Google classroom.

Year 10 Shout-Out

Well dne to Karamveer Sandhu for his dedication and effort towards his studies. Another well done to Gurshan Singh Kahlon for his wonderful Sikhi attire on non-uniform day!



Year 12 Shout Out

Well done to Jessica Dosanjh for demonstrating resilience and hard work in her studies! Keep up the great efforts!

Year 11 Update



A huge well done to our year 11 students for demonstrating chardi kala (resilience) and dharam (righteousness) throughout their GCSE mock examinations. A reminder that students must attend their interventions, and any absences must be confirmed by parents, by emailing Mrs. Virk or Mr. Choudhury.

Post 16- Destinations

Year 11 have started to look at post-16 options and destinations with Mrs. Virk this week, and this will continue throughout the term. Resources will be shared with students about how to apply, but it is important that parents are supporting application processes and visits to open evenings in the borough and beyond. Most sixth form open evenings will take place this term, so it is important you are checking school websites for further information. Khalsa VI Redbridge open evening will be on 17th December 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Virk should you have any further questions. A reminder that Mrs. Virk will be the reference point for all year 11 students; please use her email address on applications: m.virk@atamacademy.com

Pastoral Team Shout-Out



A huge thank you to Mrs. Dhanjal, Mr. Nahal and Mrs. Panesar for always going above and beyond to provide amazing pastoral care for our students across both primary and secondary!



Sikhi at ATAM 96

Welcome to our first Sikhi at Atam Newsletter Article. The team are going to be sharing some of the amazing things that have been happening at Atam and marking any upcoming Sikhi events.

We would like to wish all families celebrating a joyous Gurburab as we mark the 555th Prakash Purab of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. May his teachings of Pyar- love, Sat - Truth, and Daya- compassion inspire us all.

Mool Mantar Challenge: Final Push!

So far, we've completed 500,683 Mool Mantars, thanks to the incredible dedication of our Atam community. Your daily participation has been truly inspiring!

Our new aim is to reach 555,000 Jaaps by Drop down day as we are still quite far away from the million. However, we will continue the jaaps till the end of term to reach the final target. We need your help to get there! Let's give this one final push and make this milestone a reality.

Spiritual Assemblies:

Over the past two weeks in our secondary spiritual assemblies, we've been reflecting on the Saka of Panja Sahib and the profound value of Chardi Kala (the spirit of optimism and resilience). This week, we're diving deeper into the inspiring Sakhis of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, learning from his life and his unwavering commitment to truth and equality.

For a deeper understanding of Saka Panja Sahib, we recommend this video:

Saka Panja Sahib - YouTube

Lunch Time Club in Darbar Sahib: A Heartfelt Recognition

We have had a great turnout of students attending the Darbar Sahib every lunchtime. The Darbar Sahib is open to all students from Year 5 to Year 12. Students have been learning keertan, paat, how to take a hukamnama, play the Nagara and join in some daily simran. A special shout-out to Agam Singh (Year 10), who has been selflessly using his Santhiya (recitation skills) to teach fellow students Jap Ji Sahib during lunchtime. His dedication to spreading the message of Guru Nanak Dev Ji is truly inspiring.

Additional Learning Resources: Explore the Life of Guru Nanak Dev Ji

If you'd like to delve deeper into the life and teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, we've put together some excellent resources:

- Basics of Sikhi 10-Day Countdown
- A fantastic series that covers key aspects of Guru Nanak's life and legacy.
- Nanak Naam - Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Message
- A beautiful video exploring the core messages of Guru Nanak's teachings.
- SikhNet - Guru Nanak Stories
- An inspiring collection of stories from Guru Nanak's life, shared through SikhNet.
- SikhVision - Downloadable worksheets for children

Excellent resources ranging from colouring sheets, word searches, crosswords, comprehension and more!

Looking Ahead

As we continue our spiritual journey, let's keep the spirit of Chardi Kala alive and work together to further deepen our connection to Guru Nanak Dev Ji's teachings. Thank you all for your continued commitment to learning, growing, and serving within the Atam community.

"Satguru naanak pragatiaa mitee dhoundh jag chaanan hoaa." - With the emergence of the true Guru Nanak, the mist cleared and the light scattered all around - Bhai Gurdas Ji

NOTICES



Sikh Studies Donations

At ATAM Academy, we are committed to providing our students with a rich and well-rounded education which includes Sikh Studies as part of their personal and moral development. The school takes great pride in offering a dedicated Sikh Studies programme that allows students to explore, understand, and appreciate Sikh values, history, and teachings. We are also blessed to have a Darbar Sahib at ATAM Academy, which all pupils and staff have an opportunity to visit on a weekly basis.

To further enrich Sikhi at the school and to maintain the Darbar Sahib at ATAM Academy, we are reaching out to invite you to support the school through direct debit contributions to our Sikh Studies Fund. These funds will prove to be vital in helping us offer a range of enrichment experiences, special events, Sikhi educational resources, and more. Please note that the maintenance of the Darbar Sahib is not funded by the Department for Education. For the past 6 years, all costs associated with the Darbar Sahib has been borne by seva from the Sikh Studies team, the Trust and a small group of parents/ local community members.

As a PTA, we plan to establish a separate fund which is exclusively ring fenced for promoting Sikhi at ATAM Academy and maintenance of the Darbar Sahib. This fund will be managed by the PTA and on a termly basis, a ledger of all income and expenditure will be shared with all parents. This will ensure transparency and accountability.

We are requesting a voluntary contribution of £2.00 per month (per family) towards the PTA Sikh Studies fund. If you would like to contribute, setting up a direct debit is simple and convenient:

1. If you are using online banking, please set up a regular monthly payment to:
Account Name: ATAM ACADEMY PTA
Bank: NatWest
Sort code: 60-05-01
Account: 1474-2748
Ref: "PTA Sikhi Fund"

2024
"Dukh Bhanjan"
A Night of Soulful Meditation

Save the date
SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

HAMILTON, CANADA 4pm - 5pm EST	LONDON, UK 6pm - 12am GMT	PARIS, FRANCE 6:30pm - 8:30pm CET	BARCELONA, SPAIN 8pm - 5am CET
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www.rajacademy.com/dukh-bhanjan

**KIRTAN /
HARMONIUM
LESSONS**

Saturday's 11am-12pm

Location: Karamsar Gurdwara

Teacher: Amrit Kaur
07920107589
£5 per student

Kirtan taught in ascribed raags

Please note - parents must stay with children during the lesson

NOTICES



Dilruba Classes

As part of Atam Academy's after school enrichment programme, the school offers Dilruba classes every Wednesday, with Rajinder Kaur from Raj Academy.

Dilrubas are a classical string instrument which originate from over 300 years ago from the time of the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji. Dilruba is Persian for 'heart stealer' – as the instrument has a beautiful, engaging sound which captures your heart in an instant. The Dilruba is a smaller version of the Taus, and during battles it could be carried on horseback by the Khalsa army.

Dilrubas are an expensive instrument to purchase (approximately £500 each) and we appreciate that learning the Dilruba requires a significant financial investment. Both the PTA and Atam Sikh Studies team are keen to improve access for our pupils to learn traditional Sikh instruments.

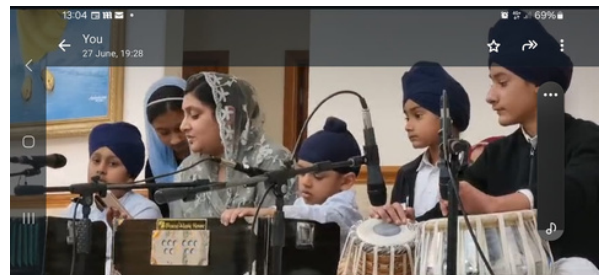
Therefore, the PTA are delighted to announce that we have bought 5 Dilrubas for our pupils' use. These Dilrubas are hand crafted from a specialist supplier in New Delhi, India. We are thankful to our generous donors who donated £2,500 towards this purchase.

If your child attends the Wednesday club and would like to borrow a Dilruba for practice at home, please contact the PTA for more information pta@atamacademy.com

KIRTAN BY ATAM ACADEMY PUPILS AT KARAMSAR GURDWARA

In recent weeks, Atam Academy pupils have been performing kirtan at Karamsar Gurdwara, Ilford. These pupils have been attending classes run by Bibi Amrit Kaur on Saturday mornings, please see poster below for more information. As a school we are our proud of Atam pupils whenever and wherever they perform Shabad Kirtan. Well done to Anmol Kaur Virdee (form 7T), Arjun Singh Virdee (Kurbani class), Kuljot Singh Matharu (Sipahi class), Harjot Singh Matharu (Bana class), Tvejot Singh Matharu (Dharam class), Harkeeret Singh Dhillon (Bani class) and Harprem Kaur Dhillon (Seva class).

If your child performs kirtan at any local events, please send their full name, class and stage picture to r.bhamrah@atamacademy.com for a special mention in our school newsletter. Atam Academy is committed to supporting and inspiring our pupils to learn and perform Shabad Kirtan.



Work Experience Placements for Year 10-12

Work placements offer hands-on experience, helping students explore careers and develop workplace skills. We invite professionals to give talks, sharing career insights and inspiring students about different industries.

For more details or to volunteer, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/c7BdiwjgByRLcUrt9>, or contact the PTA at pta@atamacademy.com