

# Chantry Middle School's visits to the Islamic Society Mosque, Newcastle University

*Last term, Mrs. Lynsey Jackson at Chantry Middle organised no fewer than four visits to the Islamic Society Mosque at Newcastle University. All the visits were deemed a great success, both by the school and by Mahmoud Kurdi, who, as ever, hosted the visits with his usual patience, humour and limitless enthusiasm. To give an insight into what the pupils experienced, we publish below a delightful summary from one of the young visitors. Note who arrived to say his prayers!!!*



In February 2012, the four Year 6 classes at Chantry Middle School went to Newcastle University Mosque. I really enjoyed the visit to the mosque because it was interesting and I learned a lot of new facts about Islam and Muslims. Class 6J went to the mosque to learn about worship and prayer time by watching Muslims pray.

The trip was organised by our great teacher, Mrs Jackson. Firstly, when we got there, we had to take our shoes off, because the carpets inside the mosque are very pretty and clean. People will pray with their heads touching the floor and they won't like having mud on their head! Then a Muslim sang a song (the call to prayer) and about fifty men came into the main prayer hall and then we were allowed to sit on the stairs near the mihrab. The Imam came in and started the twenty past one prayer session, and about two minutes later Demba Ba from Newcastle United came into the back and started praying.



Afterwards we went into a different room and discussed Islam and the five pillars of Islam. I learnt a lot of interesting things and I asked a lot of questions. To summarise this trip, I would say it was great.

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