

# RS during Lockdown

During lockdown, I have taken great pride in my work and how I can present myself and my thoughts through home learning. RS during lockdown has given me a chance to be more free with my work, however I have maintained maximum effort towards each individual task. I must say I prefer learning RS during lockdown, as there is a greater vast of topics that we have studied. From Climate Change, to the Prodigal son, to the Ramayana. Mr Stone (the head of RS) has cleverly created an online RS and Philosophy website, where he weekly sets tasks and where you can always find useful information on upcoming events. I personally rate this website 10/10. Well done Mr Stone!

Moving onto our learning... each week we have focused on a different topic within RS, and each topic has allowed me to produce work I am very proud of.

## Week 1-6: Protecting our Environment Campaign

In this task, we were asked to produce an environmental campaign about an issue we face today as a society. I chose Climate change as I feel like there are a lot of areas to research and discover. The first few tasks was to do research about the issue: Key facts, different views, and solutions. I found this task very fascinating. Here is my work...

**RS Week 1**  
Climate change

**What is Climate Change:**

- Climate change is caused by global warming, the process of the earth's temperature increasing because of human beings.
- It can have many negative effects on living creatures and human health and weather patterns.

**Effects**

- Severe weather-** Severe weather, droughts, and floods will destroy crops of staple foods such as rice and wheat
- Droughts-** Some areas of the world will be more prone to lack of rainfall
- Floods-** Other areas will be prone to more rainfall – the UK experienced this in the Spring of 2014
- Destruction of crops-** Hurricanes, tsunamis, floods etc. will be more frequent and more intense
- Famine-** This means when whole countries starve and sometimes die because of lack of food

Many species of plants and animals are dying out because they are not well adapted to the warmer atmosphere.  
Many species of animals are not moving to different areas: migration pattern of birds

**Causes**

- Carbon emissions (and greenhouse gases with effect the ozone layer)
- Cars, power stations, factories

**Effects on modern lifestyle**

- Pollution** - Using natural resources faster than they can be replaced
- Unustainability
- Rivers and seas by oil, pesticides, and nitrates

**VIEWS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

24.04.2020

JUDAISM AND ISLAM

**Judaism**

Psalm 24 notes, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof"

Jewish tradition tells us to care for our planet in order to preserve that which God has created. Any act that damages our earth is an offense against the property of God. The Jewish concept of *bal tashchit*, "do not destroy" forbids any needless destruction to the environment.

Judaism emphasizes our need to preserve our natural resources and generate new ones for future generations. The Talmud tells the story of the sage Choni, who was walking along a road when he saw a man planting a carob tree. Choni asked, "How long will it take for this tree to bear fruit?" "Seventy years," the man replied. Choni then asked, "Are you so healthy that you expect to live that length of time and eat its fruit?" The man answered, "I found a fruitful world because my ancestors planted it for me. Likewise, I am planting for my children." In fact, tradition values this concept so much that the rabbis teach that if a man is planting a tree and the messiah appears, he should finish planting the tree before going to greet him.

Among the many issues facing our planet, climate change poses a huge challenge to resource development and even daily habits. Jews believe that God created the world and gave human beings a special responsibility within creation to cultivate, guard and use it wisely

**"The Lord took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."**

Genesis 2:15

### Islam

**Allah created the earth and all that is in it, including animas and its resources- it is peoples heritage**

**Qur'an, 6:165; 2:256-7**

Many Muslims believe human beings have guardship (*khalifah*) of the planet, which means that each individual should act as a guardian of Khalifa. Guardship allows humans to make use of the environment for their survival, but this must never be taken to the level of exploitation

The Muslim declaration at Assisi in 1986 states that:

Allah created plants and animals and gave them the ability to reproduce before He made humans. Human beings must respect their role in creation and the rights of other creatures. Human beings are free, but this freedom includes recognizing and accepting what Allah has given, including the gift of creation. Human beings can only achieve the unity with creation that reflects the oneness of Allah when they work in harmony with nature, not against the natural order

**"...greater indeed than the creation of man is the creation of the heavens and the earth."**

**Qur'an 40:57**

### Solutions for climate change

#### Sustainable energy resources:

To meet increasing global demand for energy, while reducing the risk of either causing damage to the environment or contributing to global warming, it is important that:

- Developing countries reduce deforestation and increase afforestation (planting trees)
- Countries find new sourced of energy and develop existing sources that are more sustainable than fossil fuels.
- Industries and domestic consumers of energy use it more efficiently to prevent waste
- Developed countries start to switch from fossil fuels to alternative sources-solar, wind, tidal and hydro-electric power.

As developing countries start to use more energy they are encouraged to develop more sustainability sources of energy and to control their population growth so they use less.

#### Carbon credits

This is a scheme aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It is based on the idea of the 'polluter pays' according to how much pollution they generate. The idea is that people are encouraged to pollute less as it will cost them less in carbon taxes. Yet these can be traded between countries which has allowed global polluters to offset their emissions and thus the scheme has become largely ineffective.

If the world controlled how much greenhouse gas they are emitting, less will end up in the atmosphere and will therefore contribute less to climate change

#### Ways to prevent carbon emissions include:

- Walking, cycling, or using public transport
- Reducing the number of aircraft journeys taken
- Using smaller, more energy-efficient cars or electric cars
- Switching off lights, power sockets, phone chargers and TVs when not in use
- Recycling and reusing plastics and oil-based products
- Using energy-efficient light bulbs and rechargeable batteries
- Considering installing solar panels



Font Size



After completing all the research tasks, we were then asked to choose at least four of the following to make our campaign:

Two different posters

A leaflet

A banner

A PowerPoint

A radio advert

A TV advert

A speech

A letter to your MP

A song

A written play


A website purely about your issue

A philosophical essay


The ones I chose to complete are highlighted in blue. I really enjoyed creating this campaign as designing is one of my strengths, hence why I chose to do more than four. I am very proud of my end result, I believe I made a very convincing campaign against Climate Change and am excited for you to see it..

### JEWISH VIEWS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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Judaism emphasizes our need to preserve our natural resources and generate new ones for future generations. The Talmud tells the story of the sage Choni, who was walking along a road when he saw a man planting a carob tree. The man planned on growing this plant for 70 years, well beyond his lifetime. However, the man explained how he was planting it for his children, after it being planted by his ancestors. In fact, tradition values this concept so much that the rabbis teach that if a man is planting a tree and the messiah appears, he should finish planting the tree before going to greet him.

Among the many issues facing our planet, climate change poses a huge challenge to resource development and even daily habits. Jews believe that God created the world and gave human beings a special responsibility within creation to cultivate, guard and use it wisely.

### ISLAMIC VIEWS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

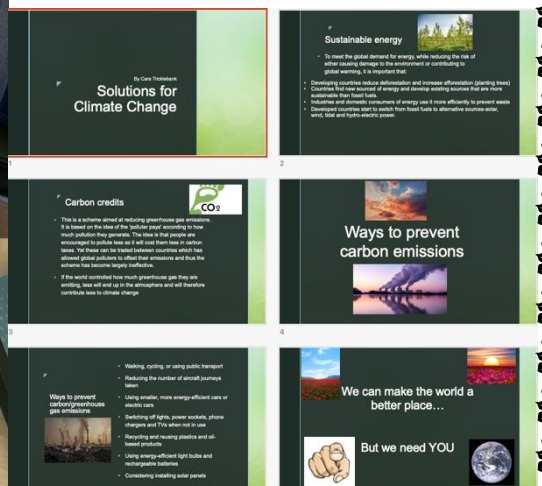
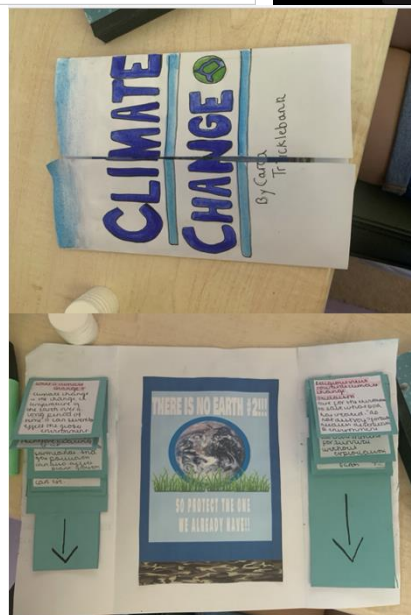

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## Week 7: The return of the Prodigal Son



### Story

Father has two sons, younger one has no right to father's inheritance  
 However once received, he spends it on booze and parties  
 Becomes broke and finds a job working with swine (unclean/unclear Jewish law)  
 Returns home and begs for father's forgiveness, not sorry but hungry  
 Whilst preparing the story, the father runs and embraces / forgives him and calls for a celebration  
 Older one becomes angry (he has been good his whole life)

Prodigal - wastefully or rashly extravagant

Light around the thankful father and son (symbolism)



dark surroundings (negative atmosphere around brother)  
 'brother' don't seem so welcoming  
 almost congratulating him for his faults  
 only has on one shoe  
 Beggar-like man being welcomed home

### Painting

- Light around father and son
- Red cloaks are worn on the family to show wealth, whilst the young boy is in rags
- Hair is cut (possibly to remove fees)
- Father has asymmetrical hands (one looks feminine and one looks masculine)
- Symbolises a God who doesn't discriminate and who welcomes us home
- Older brother looking down on the scene in rage

### Message

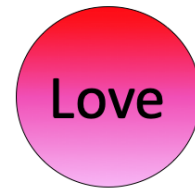
Look up to your father, he is who you are meant to be (God)

### What is love?

Love is a complex set behaviors, beliefs associated with strong feelings of affection, protectiveness, warmth, and respect for another person. This can be found between families, couples, and even animals. When you love someone, you are committed to help and look after another being.

### How can love affect us?

Love can make us feel appreciated and positive. To know someone is always there for you, you are much less likely to become stressed and/or depressed. Love helps you live longer. Love makes you confident.



### Religious views on love

The Christian understanding is that love comes from God. The love of a man and woman and the unselfish love of others, are often contrasted as 'ascending' and 'descending' love, respectively, but are ultimately the same thing.

One of the core commandments of Judaism is "love your neighbour as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18). Ahava (love in Jewish) occur when two people's nefesh-souls link together. This is evident in the biblical description of David's love for Jonathan. Perhaps the strongest 'proof' that love is the bonding of nefesh souls comes from what we experience when our love has been abandoned or betrayed. It is the unbearable pain.

I really enjoyed learning about the Prodigal son as it teaches us many lessons on who we want to be, the difference between right and wrong ext. This painting can lead to a lot of disagreement between religions. The fact that the father forgave the son for all of his sins, can make some people either angry or confused. However, if you examine the story and the painting carefully, you may realise how the father represents a God-like figure, who forgives us for all our sins.

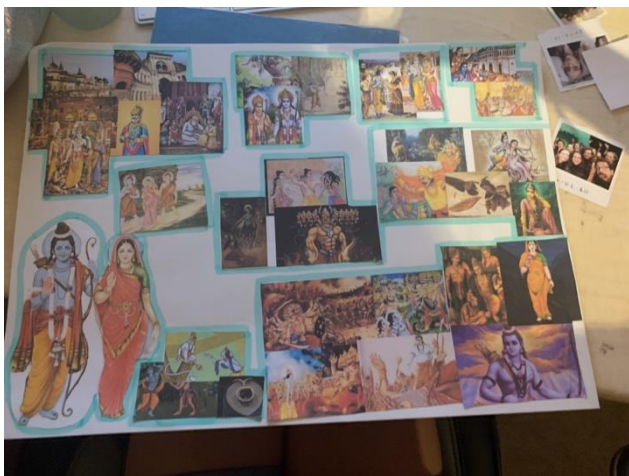
## Week 8: The Ramayana

The Ramayana is one of the most famous stories in the world. It is sacred to hundreds of millions of Hindus. It has been depicted by creative and performing artists for centuries. It can be found in paintings and drawings, in books, in mosaics, statues, in drama and dance, films and cartoons ext..

### Storyline

- Based Ayodhya, banks of River
- Ruled by king - Jastrata
  - wise and wonderful
- He didn't have an heir to the throne, his three daughters ~~so~~ couldn't have a son
- He begged the gods for a son, one emerged
  - presented king with golden vessel, king shared with his daughters,
- Daughters gave birth, one named Rama, one with another, and surya
- king was extatic
- 3 sons grew happily, Rama and Lakshmana shared a bond
- Years went by, a man came to ask Rama to go to the forest and destroy Rachtshies
- Lakshmana could accompany, long journey
- Huge creature appeared, Rama killed it
- They killed many demons, man was pleased so they met neighbouring king
- king had daughter named sita, who was wanted to marry well
- Rama had to slough bull to win her hand
- He won, ~~and~~ they married
- Three brothers married, and returned home
- They lived 12 happy years
- Rama was to be the new king
- other queen wanted her son to rule, she ordered the king to send Rama away for 14 year, Rama left with sita and Lakshmana
- king died, other son went to retrieve Rama
- Rama saved ~~many~~ many lives, another queen proposed but refused and chopped off her nose and ears. She went to her father to marry Sita

- king uncle took form of deer and spoke on sita, Rama went to collect deer for Sita, deer cried for help in Ramas voice, Sita, deer cried for help in Ramas voice, forcing Lakshmana to leave sita, he drew a line for her to stay in
- Sita saw beagle and stepped over line, he came a he ~~away~~ and king of Eagles saved her but king cut off his wings
- Sita dropped jewels so Rama could find her
- Ravana mad Sita prisioner
- Rama returned to empty hut, dying Eagle told Rama about kidnapping
- They killed demon, demon said to go to another king for help
- King showed Ramas jewels
- Rama helped restore king, new king ordered army to help Rama find in Lankar
- One of the monkey discovered this and went to find Sita (flew), gave her Rama ring, she gave him headband
- Monkey set Lankar on fire, ~~R~~ Evil king brother went to help Rama
- Rama built a bridge to get across to Lankar to defeat Ravana
- Long battle
- Ravanas sons arrows turned to serpents and tied Rama and brother up
- king of birds saved them
- Ravana ordered other brother to help, Rama finally defeated him
- Lakshmana fell into coma and ordered monkey king to find her
- her heard Lakshmana
- Rama killed Ravana's head
- Rama and sita were reunited
- Rama and Sita returned home
- City was waiting for them, Rama crowned king
- the who listens to it will grow in strength and wisdom.



I really enjoyed learning about the Ramayana. I already knew parts of the storyline as I had performed it in year 4 as part of a performance. However back then we called it Rama and Sita. I attempted to learn some Bollywood moves however, as I am not a dancer, I gave up after a few attempts. The purpose of the Ramayana is to illustrate the excruciating moral choices that a man (Rama), a woman (Sita), the siblings (Lakshmana, Bharatha) have to make in following the path of Dharma (righteous duty) in their lives.

## Week 9: Images of the Buddha



- Rama and Sita were reunited
- Rama and Sita returned home
- City was waiting for them, Rama crowned king
- the two sisters to it will grow in strength and wisdom.

23/05/2020

### Images of Buddha

- Statues of Buddha:
  - Recumbent Buddha
  - Tiger Cave Temple: Thailand
  - Seated Buddha Meditating
- Vast, huge statues
- Very spectacular set in impressive landscapes
- Each one carefully designed, crafted and positioned
- I like these huge statues because when anyone passes it, the statues are very noticeable
- I prefer stone because I believe it is more natural and doesn't have to be all pretty and sparkly to get attraction
- I think they are so huge to a) get all the attention and b) to prove to everyone they are above us all in terms of power and ability
- I think it is appropriate they are everywhere because it emphasizes the point of spreading the Buddha's teachings, and how everyone is welcome to worship

### Amilakha Buddha Meditating

- This one makes me feel very relaxed and stressless
- This image can prove that meditating, feeling calm, and mentally aware of your surroundings, can further your path to enlightenment

### The Wrathful Buddha

- I see a very energetic and alive. The bright colors represent carelessness in my opinion
- This can prove that anger can destroy any obstacles on your path to enlightenment

I don't think you should just have one image of the Buddha. This is because, each image teaches us a different message about how to live a good life, and how to further your quicken your path to enlightenment. Just one message won't get you very far

him as a god, no matter where they come from

### Different types of statues / images

- All statues and images are treated with respect
- Theravada Buddhism don't worship statues
- Mahayana Buddhism believe that worshipping them may help further their path to Enlightenment
- Some represent the historical life of the Buddha
- Facial features are important, long earlobes remind us of his wealth
- Tuft of hair represents Enlightenment
- Dot above nose (eye) represents his Enlightenment & all-seeing ability
- In some shrines, statues are of Buddha's followers
- Bodhisattva - person on path to Enlightenment

### Bodai - Bodhisattva

- Chinese Monk who lived in 10th Century
- Many people believed he had magical powers - reborn version of Buddha
- shown as a poor, laughing person, gives away to children. Some statues have children on his lap
- Mini statues can remind us to be peaceful and relaxing and whenever we are stressed



This topic was very fascinating for me. I loved how each statue had its own individual features to portray their personality, image, and teachings about the path to enlightenment. The lotus flower is often found in the images of Buddha. This origami took me ages to perfect without ripping it after every fold, but I eventually created this lotus flower on the left.