

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### **Community Iftar**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you as we approach the Islamic month of Ramadan. For Muslims, Ramadan is a month of fasting and abstaining from things considered to be impure for the mind and body. Those partaking in Ramadan abstain from food, drink and impure thoughts between the hours of sunrise and sunset, allowing them instead to focus on prayer and reflection.

During this month, Iftar is held daily. This is a meal taken by Muslims at sundown to break the daily fast kept during Ramadan. The act of fasting is believed to encourage empathy for those who live their lives in poverty and famine, leaving the participant feeling more grounded and grateful for all that they have. This period culminates with the festival of Eid al-Fitr which translates as "the festival of the breaking of the fast".

Thornhill Community Academy are hosting their first ever Iftar on the evening of Thursday 14th March 2024. This is a perfect opportunity for parents and students to gain an insight into why our fellow Muslim students fast during the month of Ramadan. The Iftar event is open to all students and families (Muslim and non-Muslim) in every year group. Doors open at 5:15pm, the event will begin at 5:30pm, fast opens at 6:13pm, followed by a prayer (for those who wish to). The event will culminate with the opportunity for all attendees to join together for a hot meal.

As an Academy, we place importance on developing students' knowledge and understanding of faiths and cultures so that they can appreciate the diversity of beliefs and cultures within our local and national community. We hope that you will join us in this event. If you would like to attend with your family, please either complete the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/5VRh53XiKh> clearly stating how many will be attending to allow the school to cater by Friday 1st March 2024. Your child must be accompanied by at least one adult. Should you have any questions or queries with regards to the above event, then please do not hesitate to contact us on 01924324890, alternatively you can email [fatema.mulla@sharemat.co.uk](mailto:fatema.mulla@sharemat.co.uk) or [tanya.elsegood@sharemat.co.uk](mailto:tanya.elsegood@sharemat.co.uk) We do hope you will join us.

Yours Sincerely,

Lucinda Rudd (Assistant Headteacher) & Fatema Mulla (EMA Coordinator)



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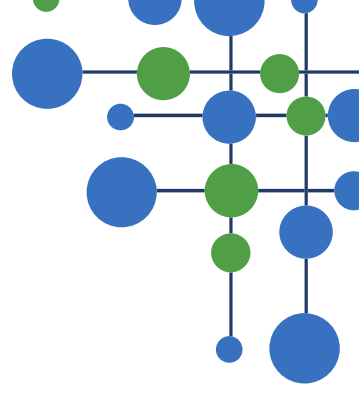
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## **Community Iftar**

Please return to Mrs Elsegood by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Thornhill Community Academy are hosting their first ever Iftar on the evening of Thursday 14th March 2024. Doors open at 5:15pm, the event will begin at 5:30pm, fast opens at 6:13pm, followed by a prayer (for those who wish to). The event will culminate with the opportunity for all attendees to join together for a hot meal. If you would like to attend with your family, please complete this form clearly stating how many will be attending to allow the school to cater by Friday 1st March 2024. Your child must be accompanied by at least one adult.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Form \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/carer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of people attending the Iftar event from your family on Thursday 14th March 2024 \_\_\_\_\_