

NCJPS  
St Anns Rd North  
Cheadle  
Cheshire  
SK84RZ

Dear St Mary's Catholic Primary School,

I'm writing to thank you for your lovely Happy New Year card I would like to tell you about our Jewish New Year we usually call it Rosh Hashanah but it is also called many other names. Rosh in English means head and Hashanah is year, so Rosh Hashanah really means head of the year because we want to be the head not the tail,

As well our New Year Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of ten very important days of judgment before Yom Kippur our fast day which is the holiest day in the Jewish year Rosh Hashanah is our time to look forward to the New Year to think how we can improve our badness from the past year.

Rosh Hashanah lasts two days and two nights. In the day we go to synagogue and say our prayers we also hear the shofar being blown one hundred times by a rabbi. The shofar is a ram's horn. It is very hard to blow the shofar because it can't get wet. The rabbi has to make three different notes Tekiah, teruah and shevarim Tekiah is one long note, teruah is nine short quick notes, shevarim is three short broken notes. The last ten notes are a new note called Tekiah gadola, which is like Tekiah but longer.

On both nights of Rosh Hashanah, and also sometimes at lunch during the day, we have a big feast with our family. We also have some special food during Rosh Hashanah, we eat apple and honey at the beginning of the meal, and also challah bread dipped in honey because we want to have a sweet New Year. We also have pomegranate because each of the seeds represent a mitzvah, which is a good deed. We want to be the head of the year that's why we have a fish head on the table at night and it's a fish head because a fish's eyes represent our god because a fish's eyes never close like our god.

I hope you enjoyed this letter.

Yours sincerely,  
Daniel  
Year 5