

## Agenda Item 10

**Subject:** Fw: Sikhism

Dear Head teacher

I am writing to you on behalf of the Punjabi Educational Social Cultural and Religious Organisation (PESCARO) of which organisation I am the education officer.

We have been established in the Portsmouth area for nearly twenty years and have arranged a number of events over the years to present Sikh history and culture to the people of Portsmouth at public venues in the City such as the Museum, Technical College on Tangier Road and various schools. You may have been invited to and possibly some of you may even have attended one or more of these events.

As one of our Articles of Constitution is to offer educational support to schools in Portsmouth, we are now able to extend this service to all schools, initially targeting educational support for children in years 6 or 7.

We can arrange for one of our members to give a presentation in one of your religious education lessons explaining the meanings of Sikh symbols and a little of Sikh history. We can arrange the presentation to suit your needs. We bring with us most of the Sikh symbols for the children to experience first hand and we can bring small samples of food to taste at the end of the talk. If you are interested in discussing this further or if you would like to arrange a meeting or a talk you may contact me to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

We have for a number of years arranged a competition for year 6 and 7 children in local schools. This has involved children submitting to the teacher an A4 sheet of their own work related to a specific topic on to Sikhism. The first three selected winners and their school have been presented with cash prizes. This is usually near the the Sikh New Year Celebrations of Vaisakhi on April 13. The prizes are given by a local dignitary with parents and teachers also present.

If you would like to participate in this competition next year please let me know so I can arrange to discuss the scheme with you.

Thank you for the time you have taken to read this mail and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future, preferably before the end of Summer Term.

Warm Regards

C S Chadha