

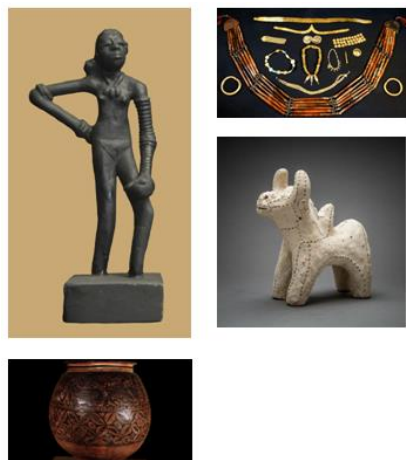
## Year 4 Blog – Week Commencing 23.06.2023: Indus Valley Region Archaeologists

Wow! What an exciting week. In Year 4, we completed our summer topic trip to Neasden Temple, London, learned about monsoons, and we even stepped into the feet of archaeologists!

On Monday, we visited the beautiful Neasden Temple in London. We arrived by coach and was immediately greeted on the gates. The children (and adults) were absolutely blown away by the stunning views and monumental scenery. Upon stepping foot into the main building, we all took off our shoes and were settled into the prayer hall. We were lucky enough to be able to witness a Hindu prayer ceremony. We were overwhelmed by the faith and the beauty of the prayer hall. We could then take time to walk about the hall and witness the stunning, hand carved sculptures and the detailed walls and ceilings. Although we were unable to take images inside the Mandir, we will remember the wonder for a lifetime. After the prayer ceremony, the children took part in an Understanding Hinduism exhibition, which was laid out like a museum. They learned lots of amazing things and were able to note these down in their workbooks. Afterwards, we were able to watch a documentary film about the Mandir and even had the opportunity to ask questions. We were astonished to discover that all of the stone and marble was hand carved in India and Italy and only took 3 years from start to finish! We are so grateful for this experience and would like to extend our gratitude to the volunteers and staff members of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, London.



In history this week, we became archaeologists! Our task was to analyse the artefact that has been found along the Indus Valley region and infer what we think the artefact is, what it was used for and what it might tell us about the Indus Valley. Some artefacts included sculptures, jewelry, and pottery.



Finally, in Geography, we learned about the climate in India and about Monsoon season. Although initial impressions led us to believe that Monsoons had a negative impact on the environment, we learned that India actually needs Monsoons in order to keep the economy alive (farming and crops), but also to relieve the country from the scorching hot weather.