



Old Palace Newsletter

June 2017

CELEBRATING EID AT OLD PALACE



Our Eid Festival Assembly was once again performed by year 6. To prepare for this, the children visited the Brick Lane Mosque on 14th June, when they were given a tour by Imam Yasin. He explained the history of the building, telling the children that it was the only building in Western Europe that has been used as a Church, Synagogue and a Mosque. The children got to ask

lots of questions about how the building is used to support prayer, ceremonies and celebrations and used what they had found out when planning their assembly on Friday 23rd June. Not only did the assembly share Ibrahim's (Abraham's) story, but it also explained how Eid is celebrated in different countries around the world. The children's confident and energetic performance was enjoyed by all, including the performers whose acting and singing were first rate!



We also had some special guests join us this year: Year 4 pupils from Rimon School in North London. The school is for Jewish pupils and we invited them to come along so they could learn about Eid and why it is so important to our children. They met children from 4C and exchanged Eid and welcome cards. All the children had questions to ask each other to find out similarities and differences between the two religions.

During the afternoon the children had an opportunity to share a picnic at Three Mills where they played together for while and spoke freely about school life. It was lovely to see all the children getting on so well and we looking forward to visiting their school in December to find out more about the festival of Hanukkah.



In the afternoon it was party time! As this was the first time we had held Eid Parties in the summer (and given last week's gorgeous weather) the Foundation stage and KS1 decided to hold their parties in Bob's Park. Unfortunately the weather wasn't kind and the children had to return early. This didn't spoil the occasion though, as the



IMPORTANT DATES



INSET TRAINING DAY

School closed Monday 10th July 2017

ANNUAL PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July 2017

By Appointment Only

ANNUAL SUMMER FETE

Wednesday 19th July 2017

END OF SUMMER TERM

School finishes Friday 21st July at 2pm

Return to school Tuesday 5th September 2017

All other important dates will be available on our school website www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk

children still got to play a variety of games in the park and then return to be treated to a feast of party food thanks to the parents' kind donations.

In KS2 the parties were held in classrooms, but this didn't dampen the fun. The children got to enjoy a range of party games and had plenty to eat thanks once again to the parents' generous donations. Many children



chose to come to school in their Eid clothes and it was a joy to see them looking so colourful and smart in their special outfits. And it wasn't just the children who had fun... Shelly and Forida worked with the Parent Council to plan a hugely successful Eid party. Over 130 parents attended the celebration in the dining hall, which was buzzing with party atmosphere. Again parents were very generous in providing food to add to the catering provided by the school. Although Mr Palmer wasn't able to attend this year, he would like to pass on his personal thanks to all those who attended, as well as to the Parent Councillors and volunteers who helped to make this such a success.



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

Coffee morning this half term have included workshops on Domestic Violence, Summer Fete and Parent Eid Planning meeting.

Before the end of term we will be holding a coffee morning on Wednesday 5th July at which we will create posters and banners for the Summer Fete 9-10am, Then our final event will be on Wednesday 12th July – this will be an off site Coffee Morning held at the Sky Garden. If you would like to join us, please let Shelly know by 5th July.

ABACUS PROJECT



The Abacus Project is a financial literacy course targeted at pupils in year 5 and their parents. In the parent sessions, themes included how to manage money, exploring the importance of budgeting, spending, having a savings plan and using

online facilities for price comparison purposes.

Meanwhile in the classroom volunteers from Lloyds come in every week, to teach the children about budgeting, debt, credit and the world of work. The children thoroughly enjoyed these sessions, one of which included a 'blind taste test', which involved tasting various expensive and cheap brands of crisps and then discussing whether there was a real difference in taste and quality.

Feedback from both pupils and parents was very positive. All the parents who had attended the 5 week course were presented with a certificate on Thursday 29th June, to celebrate completion of the course.



LEARNING ABOUT WORK: Y5 CAREERS FAIR

On the 27th June the Year 5 Career's Fair took Place. This was linked to the children's topic, where they had already learnt about the workplace and the different jobs people do. The Year 5 children had an opportunity to meet a range of professionals and talk to them about what they do for a living. They had prepared some questions before hand and showed great enthusiasm and were very inquisitive. The professions ranged from an art director, an investment banker, a nurse and journalists. Thank you to all the volunteers that took part as the children really enjoyed this unique and fun experience.



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Dates for your diary

M a t h s W o r k s h o p

Fractions Workshop for Parents of children in Year 4 & 5. Mrs. Kamali will support parents by providing techniques that can be used at home to help your child understand the use of Fractions. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 4th July 9-10am, in the Community Room.

F o c u s G r o u p

We have invited Professor Monica Lakhanpaul from the UCL Great Ormond Street to come in and do a presentation on health issues effecting our community. Parents are invited to join us on Friday 7th July, 10am to 11am in the Community Room. The following topics will be discussed: Child health, Obesity, Diabetes and Cardiovascular disease and Dental care. We look forward to seeing you all.

Sports Week

This will take place from **11th July—14th July** Each phase will participate in a Sport's morning with Foundation and KS1 being held at Bob's Park from 9.30 – 11.30am and KS2's being held in 3 Mills Park, opposite Tesco. Parents are welcome to join us during these events.

Key Stage 1 & Foundation	Thursday 13 th July	Bob's Park
Years 3 & 4	Wednesday 12 th July	Three Mills
Years 5 & 6	Tuesday 11 th July	Three Mills

FAMILY LEARNING POTTERY COURSE

Recently, the Parental Engagement Team concluded a 6 week course on Pottery. This was a fun and interactive way for parents to engage with their child/ren to learn how to make figures using clay. Initially, some children found it difficult to work with clay but they learnt gradually and became



more and more confident as the course went on. By the end they produced some wonderful pieces which are now displayed in the community room for all parents to see.

SUMMER FETE 2017

Our next whole school celebration will be the Summer Fete held on 19th July. Pupils will visit during the day, with families invited from 3-5pm. We hope all our families will come along to join in the fun and support us in raising funds for school for next year. We are currently collecting donations to sell during the Summer fete. If you are able to help volunteer. Please come and speak to Shelly or Florida.



Y3 VISIT HYDE PARK TRIP



Year 3 visited the Royal Parks Education Centre in Hyde Park, where they took part in an interactive workshop learning about the weather. The children were given the opportunity to observe the weather conditions, identify different cloud formations and determining wind speed and direction. Year 3 found the activities very useful helping them to build on their knowledge about the weather which they had learned in school. Overall it was a fantastic day!

Y5 ARE PUT TO WORK AT KIDZANIA

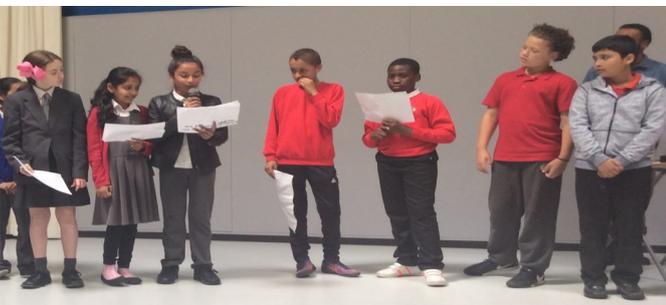
On Tuesday 27th June, Year 5 pupils enjoyed an exciting trip to Kidzania, as part of their topic on money & trade. The visit was designed to expand the children's understanding of the many future careers available to them and on the



day they got to try out over 60 real life role-play activities. These included becoming a policeman, firefighter, pilot, actor or even a Cadbury's chocolate maker! The day taught the children many other essential life skills, such as the relationship between work and money, how to budget their wages and the importance of team work. Overall, the children not only had a thoroughly enjoyable experience, but also gained an invaluable insight into what the world of work really involves.

P4C CELEBRATION AT BOW SCHOOL

This year the school has been involved a joint project with local schools including: Bow, Marner & Manorfield to raise the profile of Philosophy for Children. Our year 5 classes have visited Bow School to complete joint enquiries with their year 8 pupils, while our year 6 pupils have worked with year 7. These sessions have supported the children to develop their creative thinking, their reasoning skills and their ability to explain their thoughts confidently. To celebrate this work children from the participating schools met up yesterday and were set the challenge to work together to come up with a rap that would express the benefits of philosophy. Rayan, Isha, Sifat, Maisha & Aydin rose to the challenge and by 2pm, when the guests started to arrive, were ready to perform in the Waterside Theatre. They did so with great confidence and the audience was very impressed with what had been created in such a short amount of time - well done everyone! As well as promoting P4C the project has also supported transition, allowing our year 5 children to experience what it is like at a secondary school. The project has been a great success and we hope to continue to build on the learning and links made next year.



Y6 AT THE V&A MUSEUM

Last half term Year 6 learned about the Islamic Golden Age as part of their study of ancient Civilizations. They learned how Islamic thinkers of that time influenced the world and also explored the Islamic art that they created. To support this, year 6 were lucky enough to go on a trip to the V & A gallery to view some incredible works from all over the Middle East. They were able to learn about how the enormous mosaics and murals were painted in mosques in Baghdad, how stone windows were carved in India, and how these patterns and designs were created. Back in school, the children used some of the ideas they had collected to design their own Islamic Tiles which are now on display for all to enjoy. Well done



Y6 VISIT GLOBE THEATRE

In preparation for the end of Year performance, Y6 visited the Globe theatre. They were given a guided tour where they found out about the history the theatre and how plays were conducted during Shakespearean times, over



four hundred year ago! They were also lucky enough to participate in an acting workshop, where they role played scenes from some of Shakespeare's famous plays. Their trip has inspired them to begin writing their own versions of well-known Shakespearean plays, which will support them in creating the script for this year's Leavers' Show which will be based on Hamlet. We hope you will be able to join us for the performance on Thursday 20th July.

Y4 VISIT MUSEUM OF LONDON DOCKLANDS

As part of our learning in year 4, we visited the Museum of London Docklands, on 19th June to learn more about the history of the London Docks. During the visit they met Jack Monroe (or Lucky Jack) who took us back 200 years and told us stories about sailor, the



dock and the trade routes. As part of the workshop, the children had to pretend they were sailors, doing different jobs: scrubbing the decks, steering the ship, climbing the riggings, cooking food and sewing. In addition they sang a sea shanty and learnt to dance the Polka. After listening to Jack's stories, they had an opportunity to visit the Warehouse Gallery and find out more about the history of the London Docklands.

Y3 NATIONAL ART GALLERY



Year 3 visited the National Art Gallery this week as part of their Art topic on Impressionism. The children had the opportunity to view a range of impressionist paintings by well-known artists; Monet, Cezanne and Renoir. Year 3 chose to draw a range of

these paintings to give them some ideas ready for when they plan their own paintings. The children displayed exemplary behaviour while in the gallery and they also got to enjoy some great music in Trafalgar Square on the way home!

YEAR 5 AT THE FARM

On Friday 26th May, Year 5 visited Bore Farm in Kent. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the vegetable garden where they looked at a range of plants and tried to identify examples of sustainable practice. They learnt about the various vegetables grown there organically, as well as learning about which parts of the plant are edible and parts are not. The children also took part in hands-on learning activities which enabled them to develop their critical thinking skills.



This included using newspaper to make their very own plant pot and then planting a seed of their choice. The children will now use all they have learned to support their own planting and writing of a gardening manual back at school.



Y2 VISIT LEEDS CASTLE

Year 2 recently visited Leeds Castle in Kent. The day didn't get off to a good start as the coach driver took the wrong route, but the children were amazing and continued to show excellent behaviour despite the long journey. Once they arrived the castle staff gave the children a tour which helped them to learn more about life in the castle. The children asked lots of questions and got to dress up and act out the history of the castle, as well as being able to explore the castle grounds. The children loved their time at the castle and were also given badges, medals and booklets to remind them of their special visit.



Y4 CRUISE THE RIVER THAMES



Year 4 have been learning about the River Thames. To bring the topic to life the children got to enjoy their own cruise along the river. The cruise started at Westminster pier from where the children got to enjoy great views of the

London Eye and Big Ben. As they slowly made their way along the river, the guide pointed out all the famous landmarks, such as the Globe and Tower Bridge. Eventually the cruise ended in Greenwich, from where the children walked under the Greenwich foot tunnel. They then got to enjoy lunch in Island Gardens' park before returning to school. The children had a great day and couldn't stop talking about all the famous places they had seen.

Y1 VISIT MUDCHUTE FARM

As part of their topic on animals, Year 1 visited Mudchute farm. The children enjoyed walking around the farm and meeting many different animals, including sheep, donkeys, pigs and ducks. They were particularly excited to see the chickens and roosters, as



they had been looking after chicks in class. The children kept a tally chart of the animals they saw, with sheep and lambs coming out on top. Following the walk and picnic, the children had fun playing in the beautiful sunshine, before returning to school.

RECEPTION VISIT HAINULT FORSET

On Tuesday 16th May as part of their Growing topic, Reception went on a trip to Hainault Forest. The children were very lucky as it was a beautiful sunny day!

The children were eager to explore the deep dark forest and they discovered lots of living things and habitats. The children were fascinated with the different types of plants and trees that created the huge forest and during their nature trail collected lots of natural things such as twigs, berries, wild flowers and different shaped leaves. We even discovered mysterious footprints! We enjoyed a lovely picnic lunch, under a clear blue sky surrounded by nature. We ended the day with a short visit to the farm, where we saw Meerkats and Peacocks amongst other farm animals. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped us on the day. The children had a fantastic time and were so exhausted after all that exploration—so tired that most fell asleep on the way back to school!

