



# Old Palace Newsletter

November 2016

## CHILDREN IN NEED 2016



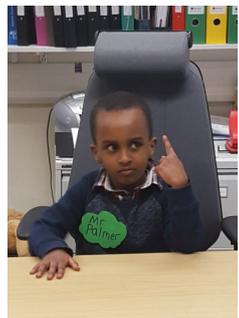
During the build up to Children in Need, the children participated in a number of competitions and activities planned across the school! The cross bar challenge and penalty shoot out took place in the KS2 playground which proved very popular across the school and the children had lots of fun! During our Coffee morning, parents from all Key stages came together to help decorated well over 700 biscuits which we managed to sell on the day. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents who contributed their time and were involved in preparing these for sale. Whilst all the preparations were taking place lots of children got creative with 'Design a Celebrity Bear' and the colouring competition in KS1 and Reception. Each class had a jar to fill with pennies and at the end of the week Michele counted up all the money and revealed the classes that raised the most. Well done 3B and 2M! The children



also took part in 'Name the Bear' and in the assembly the winners were announced along with the names of the bears. The week ended with everyone dressing as celebrities and School Council presented all the winners in assembly, along with delivering a clear message as to why we raise money every year. This year thanks to you we raised over £600 which will go towards the Children in Need fund. Thank you!



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## GOOD NEWS SLIPS

As part of our review of our behaviour policy, we have been issuing children with 'good news slips'. These are given to children who have displayed exceptional behaviour throughout the day such as being an independent learner or being resilient. Since this was introduced a total of 194 good slips have been issued. Well done to all the children who have received one!



## IMPORTANT DATES



- FS PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Wednesday 7th December 2016
- YEAR 1 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Friday 9th December 2016
- YEAR 2 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Monday 12th December 2016
- YEAR 3 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Friday 16th December 2016
- YEAR 4 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Wednesday 14th December 2016
- YEAR 5 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Tuesday 13th December 2016
- YEAR 6 PARENTS CONSULTATIONS**  
Thursday 15th December 2016

## END OF AUTUMN TERM (CHRISTMAS)

School Closes 2pm Tuesday 20th December 2016  
Children return to school Wednesday 4th Jan 2017

## SPRING HALF TERM

Monday 13th Feb—Friday 17th Feb 2017

## EASTER HOLIDAY)

Monday 10th April - Monday 24th April 2017  
Children return to school Tuesday 25th April 2017

All other important dates will be available on our school **website [www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk](http://www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk)**

## EXECUTIVE CATERING AT TOWN HALL

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2 children from Year 5 attended the Tower Hamlets Healthy Schools Food selling event. The previous day was spent cooking up a storm in the kitchen where year 5 children cooked onion bhajis, vegetable samosas, blueberry muffins, flapjacks and quiches. The smells of these delicious dishes filled the school and made everyone very hungry! Hiba and Musa ventured to Mulberry Place with Ms Blackburn to sell all the food making a grand total of £100. They also got to meet Mayor Briggs who was very impressed with the food they had prepared. Congratulations to all the children who worked so hard in preparing, cooking and selling the food.



## LEAVE IN TERM TIME

In the unlikely event of parents needing to request leave for their child/ren during term time, the procedure to be followed can be found on the school website. All applications need to be completed well in advance and definitely before the child/ren miss any sessions at school.

# PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

## PARENT COUNCIL 2016 - 2017

This year, for the first time we have 10 dads as part of the Parent Council and a total of 28 parents altogether. Recently, due to our Parent Governor elections a vacancy has arisen in 1L. So if you are a parent in 1L who is interested in gaining new skills, please contact Shelly who will be happy to discuss the role and responsibilities. Our parent councilors for the academic year 2016-17 are:

Class	Name of Parent	Name of Child
RD	Mrs Shabnam Karim	Hamza
RD	Mrs Amina Begum	Safiyah
RM	Mrs Ruqia Hydar	Sahil
RM	Ms Farhana Rahman	Adyan
<b>1L</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Na</b>
1L	Mrs Rubeya Sultana	Liyana
1B	Mrs Shahjahan Choudhury	Shabib
1B	Mrs Neherun Ali	Zakariyah
2K	Mr Aminul Islam	Fhahad
2K	Misba Hussain	Moushin
2M	Mr Matin Dhali	Orpona
2M	Mrs Fahmeeda Seedat	Aisha
3G	Mrs Ruksana Begum	Mysha
3G	Mr Mohammed Al Alzim	Ikwan
3B	Mr Leton Miah	Amaan
3B	Mrs Shelena Begum	Saiem
4C	Mrs Chemely Bibi	Nahin
4C	Mrs Michelle McCready	Victoria
4H	Mrs Lumna Begum	Samia
4H	Mr Syed Kamal	Yoonus
5L	Mrs Fatheha Begum	Moushin
5L	Mr Wais Islam	Adam
5K	Mrs Salena Akther	Shamsul
5K	Mrs Nasima Alom	Intisar
6B	Mrs Tahfa Choudhury	Mehek
6B	Mrs Shewly Khanom	Imad
6M	Mrs Rebeka Seema	Tanjiba
6M	Mr Ashrafuz Zaman	Arifuz

Parent Council meetings usually take place in the morning between 9.15-10am, this is attended by each phase Councilor, Shelly, our Parent Support Worker and the Headteacher, Mr Palmer. If you have any suggestions on how we can continue to improve the school, please forward these to the relevant parent councilor. We will provide a summary of the topics discussed this term in the next news letter.



### LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Several families from Foundation Stage took part in a 3 weeks course which started on 7<sup>th</sup> October, which is being delivered by the Parental Engagement team. The families told us they really enjoyed themselves working alongside their children on a 1:1 basis, helping to support their child's development.

## PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS



We held a parent governor election at Old Palace, on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. All the candidates were invited to come in and talk to parents during our coffee morning the day before. Each candidate

spent 5 minutes to presenting their case followed by questions and answers. Following the voting Mr Abdul Mannan was elected. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the candidates for taking part and continued support for the school.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ◆ **Maths Volunteers** training session will be on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January, 9-9.45am, Community room. This will be delivered by Ms Kamali & Shelly.
- ◆ **Offsite Coffee Morning** Mums & dads are welcome to attend our offsite Coffee Morning on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016. There are 20 free DLR travel tickets for the first 20 parents who sign up. We will travel to Canary Wharf. If you are interested in joining us please speak to Forida/Shelly.
- ◆ **Keep Fit Activities**
  - ⇒ **Dad's Football** Wed 9.30-12pm Mile End Park.
  - ⇒ **Mum's Zumba** Thurs 9.30-10.30am, Lower Hall.
  - ⇒ **Dad's Badminton** Thurs 9.30-10.30am, Upper Hall.

### TIME TO ENGAGE: FOUNDATION STAGE



This year some of the reception families are embarking on a new family learning project, 'Time to Engage', funded by the charity organization SHINE. The project

is about supporting learning and development of children in the Foundation Stage, with the focus on reading, writing and numbers. We started the project with an induction workshop to discuss the aims and outcomes of the project with the parents. Parents had the opportunity to get a taster of the types of activities they would be getting involved in with their child. Our first workshop was held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November and the feedback was very positive.

## NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

As part of our ongoing drive to prevent bullying, Old Palace took part in the National Anti-Bullying week when the children participated in activities which enabled

Rude	Mean	Bullying
Unintentional	Intentional	Intentional
Hurtful	Hurtful	Hurtful
One-off	One-off	Happens more than once, even when you ask them to stop or show you're upset.

them to understand what bullying is and how it effects all the people involved. The children learnt the definition of bullying and what this looks like. The Anti Bullying Alliance defines bullying as: "The **repetitive**, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power."

The children also learnt when behaviour is rude or unkind rather than bullying. This year the theme was 'Power for Good' which teaches us that we are stronger as a group or community. The children learnt that if we work as a community, we can stop bullying and provide support for those experiencing bullying. Each year group read a book with an anti-bullying theme to help them understand how bullying can affect many people, not just the victims. They produced some excellent work based on these books:

**FS: Elmer**

**Y1: Giraffe's Can't Dance**

**Y2: Something Else**

**Y3: Lady Long Legs**

**Y4: Secret Friends**

**Y5: The Angel of Nitshill**

**Y6: Secret Friends**

Each year group produced a final piece of work to explain how we can be good friends and provide support. They suggested what we can do as individuals and as a community if we see or experience bullying.



**CHRISTMAS IS COMING**

This year the school has invested in a live Christmas Tree for our entrance area. The tree is potted and so if we look after it well we should be able to use it for many years to come. Other Christmas events include:

Year 1 Christmas Festival Assembly & Christmas Dinner on Friday 16th December.

Children & Parent Christmas Parties on Monday 19th December including a special visit from a North Pole resident for children in KS1. As always we really appreciate donations of food for the children's parties. If sending in food please make sure that the ingredients are clearly labelled so we can protect children with allergies. Children can come in their party clothes for the whole day (as long as these can be worn safely in school) or you may prefer to send in their party clothes separately so the children can get changed at lunchtime.



## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

It is really important that you try to attending your child's parent consultations scheduled over the next 2 weeks. You have been provided with an appointment by your child's class teacher. If you are unable to make this time, for example due to work commitments, please speak to your child's teacher to arrange an alternative appointment.



## LEARNING ABOUT DIWALI

This term in year 2 we are learning about Hinduism and the festival of Diwali. As part of our learning we were able to visit the temple in Upton Park. At the temple we listened to some traditional Hindu prayers and saw how offerings were made by Hindu people. Our guide Dave told us about how they Hindus prepare for the festival of Diwali and how Hindus celebrate. We really enjoyed our visit to the temple. When we got back to school we used what we learnt at the Temple to practice for our Diwali assembly. On the



19th October the children performed a festival assembly on how Hindus celebrated all around the world. We also got to act out the story of Rama and Sita which teaches us about good over coming evil.

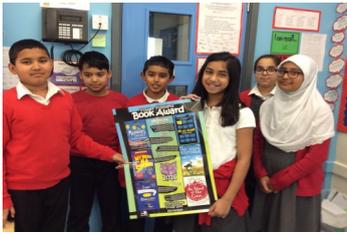


## Y3 VISIT THE OLDEST SYNAGOGUE IN THE UK

Year 3 visited the Bevis Marks Synagogue in Aldgate East as part of their unit on Judaism. The session at the synagogue was led by a minister, who spoke to the children about the synagogue and what Jewish worshippers do there. The minister also displayed a small Torah for the children to see and ask questions about. Year 3 had some great questions they wanted to ask! The children then used all they had found out to help put together their Hannukah festival assembly, which they performed on Friday. The children's acting and singing was amazing as they shared the story of Judah 2000 years ago and how Hannukah is celebrated in the home.



## TOWER HAMLETS BOOK AWARDS



Throughout the Autumn term six year 6 pupils have been meeting as part of a book club to read and discuss the six books selected for the Tower Hamlets Book Award. They covered a range of themes and experiences such as:

time travel, hidden treasure and superhero activities. Each week the pupils would meet to review the books they had read, they would discuss what they found interesting or didn't like. The children enjoyed entering the competitions: designing book marks, pictures and posters. They also were fortunate to meet the authors of the novels at the finale of the Book Award scheme in Canary Wharf on the 25<sup>th</sup> November. At this event they took part in a vote, along with other schools, to decide what the most popular book of 2016 would be. We will be creating a display of all of our work in the junior library. Please do come and have a look at it.

## Y1 VISIT SCIENCE MUSEUM



Earlier this half term, Year 1 visited the Science museum. From the moment we walked in, the children were mesmerised. The day started off with a Three Little pig's workshop all about different materials. The children explored with a range of materials, such as bendy, transparent and waterproof objects.

After the workshop, we had a walk through the different exhibitions, which included the Space gallery and the Modern world. The children were particularly fascinated by the enormous model of an astronaut. Well done to the children for behaving exceptionally well.



## COUNTY CRICKET CHAMPIONS



The year 6 children have been very fortunate to receive coaching from Michael Wilson a Middlesex County Cricket Coach this term. They have shown great enthusiasm and promise when learning to bowl, bat and field. Recently, Middlesex County Cricket team won the County Cricket Championship in a thrilling last match against Yorkshire county. On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November Michael bought the trophy into school to share the success with our staff and children.

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## FRENCH MOVIE AT THE ICA

On a recent visit to the Institute of Contemporary Arts, a group of KS2 students explored themes of electricity in a Science Fiction film called "April and the Extraordinary World". Set in 1941, electricity has bizarrely not been discovered and scientists vanish mysteriously. Avril, a teenage girl, goes in search of her missing scientist parents, along with her companion, a witty and intelligent talking cat. The film was in French with subtitles. The children enjoyed picking out the French words they had already learned in school.



Before the film, we spent time discussing the discovery and uses of electricity and what our world would be like without it. It was fascinating to see this come to life on the screen in such an imaginative way. During the day, the children behaved perfectly and showed great enthusiasm for both the topic and the film.



Many thanks also to Zohra (Safiyah and Zareena's mother), for accompanying us on the trip. We look forward to hearing the children using all the new French vocabulary they learned back in school!

## Y4 LEARN ABOUT INSULATING HOMES



Last week, children in year 4 enjoyed their trip to the Soanes Centre where a bookshop had been booked for them. Children had to investigate which materials make the best insulators. First, they sorted various materials into insulators and conductors

using heat pads, then they made and designed an insulated house. By the end of the session it was clear for all the children that the more layers they added to their house, the better insulated it was. The teams competed against each other by using sensor thermometers to measure the temperature inside their house within 60 seconds.

## Y3 VISIT KEW GARDEN

As part of year 3's unit on Plants and how the garden grows, they visited Kew gardens. Here, they took part in a pollination workshop which involved children looking at the process of pollination and exploring which plants were still in the process and which had become dormant. The children also had a chance to explore some seeds and discuss seed dispersal. Year 3 were also lucky enough to explore the grounds and visit the greenhouse to see the array of tropical plants growing. It was a great day with lots of opportunities to explore different plants.



## MAGIC ME PROJECT

Over the Autumn term, 10 children in Year 6 have been working on a project which is aimed at bringing together the youth and the elderly through art and drama. The project culminates in a performance entitled 'Journeys' at Oxford House in Bethnal Green on December 16<sup>th</sup>. One of the participants was quoted saying "Its fun, we get to make it all about ourselves". More to come, watch this space!