



# Old Palace Newsletter

June 2018

## CELEBRATING EID



Our Eid Festival Assembly was once again performed by year 6. To prepare for this, the children visited Al Medina Mosque in Barking. This mosque is considered to be the third largest Mosque in London! We went on a tour of the mosque and saw the ablution area and the main prayer area. Here, we witnessed how the mosque has designed the main prayer area so that each blind, when pulled down had one of the majestic names of Allah on it. As we have been looking at places of worship and their art and architecture, we had lots of questions to ask. The mosque had beautiful art and calligraphy inside and it had a classic green dome on the roof. The mosque was named after



one of the holiest places for Muslims which is Medina in Saudi Arabia. Later on in the day, Intisar and Tawfif were our brave volunteers and recited a verse from the Qur'an with the speakers on. Following our visit, the children performed the Eid Festival Assembly—the podcast can be viewed on our school website.

To continue with the celebration, on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June, the school hosted Eid parties for all the children and parents. Children came into school wearing their special Eid outfits, which looked amazing. From 2pm, everyone was in party mood. Children from the Foundation Stage used the top hall to play games, dance to music and enjoy party food, whilst children from KS1/2 had their parties in the classrooms.

Parents were also invited to attend the Eid party which was held in the lower hall. Over 90 parents attended the celebration. Thank you to Forida, Shelly and the Parent Councillors for all their help in arranging this.



## IMPORTANT DATES



**By Appointment Only**

**END OF YEAR PARENT CONSULTATIONS**

**Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th July 2018**

**END OF SUMMER TERM**

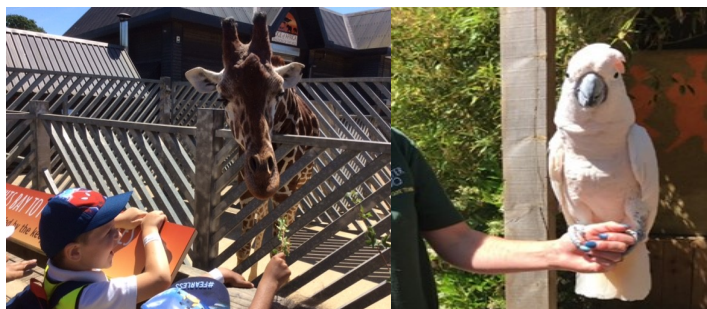
**School finishes 2PM Friday 20th July 2018**

**Return to School Tuesday 4th September 2018**

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

## RECEPTION VISIT COLCHESTER ZOO

In Reception, the children have been learning about the different species in the animal kingdom. To further their learning on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> June, the children went to Colchester Zoo. It is home to many rare and endangered species, in-



cluding big cats, primates and birds, as well as a large number of invertebrates and fish species. The children set off to explore the zoo in small groups. They walked through the different animal enclosures including: Chimpanzee lookout, Iguana forest and the Butterfly glade. Some of the children got very excited when they came into close contact with the African giraffes. The children learnt lots of interesting facts about the giraffes. Here are some of them: Giraffes are herbivores; they feed on up to 100 different species of plants within their habitat, and use their 45cm black tongue to bring the food in to their mouths; we also got to feed the giraffes! The children were amazed when they walked through the underwater seaworld. They experienced the huge sealions swimming above them; it was incredible! Some children were lucky enough to capture the sea lion show. The day ended with the children having a short play in the safari playground. Finally, everyone boarded the coach back to school. A huge thanks to all our parent volunteers!





# PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

## COFFEE MORNINGS



### Eid Planning Meeting

In preparation for our Eid celebrations, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, parents were invited to come in and share their ideas, prepare food lists and help coordinate the parent Eid party. They then got busy with their artistic skills to design Eid cards for their children and family members.

### Summer Fete Planning meeting

Thank you to the Parent Councilors, Parent Governors and parents who attended the planning meeting with Michele and Shelly on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June. There were lots of really good ideas and many parents were keen to help out on the stalls. One parent suggested we raise money for a Candy Floss machine. The school decided to buy this, but we still need money for the ingredients, so if you would like to donate, please see Shelly or Florida in the playground.

All donations of finger/dry food for the Fete are also greatly appreciated, so if you wish to cook, please see Shelly or Florida. All foods need to be placed in a disposable container and labelled to show the ingredients, as some children have allergies.

### Under Five Summer Activities

Please join us for an upcoming coffee morning on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July. We have invited an representative from Marner Childrens Centre to come in and speak to our parents about the Summer Activity Programme. If you have a child under five that could benefit from the facilities available at Marner Childrens Centre, please join us for the meeting. For more information please come and speak to Florida or you can contact the Childrens Centre on 020 7364 3534. The centre is open from 8.30-5.30pm.

### BBBC Unity Festival

In preparation for the Unity Festival, Old Palace children and parents will come together to create a banner to display at the event. Please join us for two workshops:

**Thur 5<sup>th</sup> July 3.30pm-4.30pm: a family learning session with both parent and child.**

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> July 2pm-3.30pm parents only. Workshops will be led by an artist from BBBC.**

Parents & children will complete the banner by putting their designs on canvas, with the support of Simone Tubi, Events Fund-raiser for the Bromley by Bow Centre. The Unity Festival is on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July from 2-8pm in Bob's Park**. There will be free games, bouncy castle, face painting and many more activities so make sure you attend this free event with the whole family!

## SUMMER FETE

This year our annual Summer Fete will be held on **Wednesday 18th July until 5pm**

### Donations of

Re-saleable toys, DVDs and Brick-a-brack needed  
(Please No Electricals or Clothes).

If you are able to help on the day please come and speak to Shelly or Florida. Thank you for your support.

## BANGLADESHI NEW YEAR

As part of the annual Bangladeshi New Year celebrations, Year 5/6 children were given the opportunity to help prepare banners and art work for the Boishakhi Mela. With help from Emergency Exit Arts, the children created artwork to reflect the Six Seasons of Bangladesh. It was great to see the children use their artistic talents to make such lovely colourful props. We hope you were able to view the artwork at the mela, where it was used to create a arch display on Sun 1st July, at Weavers Field, Bethnal Green.



### Poplar HARCA : Proposed Development

We would like to say a big thank you to the many parents who came along to the meeting with Poplar Harca on 20<sup>th</sup> June, to discuss the proposed development they plan to build behind the school. The new 5 storey block to be built on Bromley High Street will have 13 dwellings and their bedroom windows will look directly into some of our classrooms. We are very worried about this and so it was great to have the support of parents in asking Poplar Harca to change the design. We are also concerned about how the noise of the demolition and building works will impact on learning and the dangers of having builders so close to the school building. Ex-Parent Councillor, Mr Liton Miah has started a petition to ensure the council take note of our concerns. If you would like to sign this petition or view the proposed development, a display will be available outside the school office during our Parent Consultation on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

This is just one of the planned developments in the local area, with building projects also being planned for The Jollies House/Blue Anchor site (70 flats) and on the corner of St Leonards Street (96-98 Bromley High Street being replaced by a four story block of flats). Details of all these developments can be found by visiting <https://development.towerhamlets.gov.uk/online-applications/> where you can use the address to search for developments and leave your comments.



### Collection of Trip Money

As mentioned in the April newsletter, we are proposing to ask for a contribution at the start of each term from parents to cover the cost of trips (excluding Paris, Gilwell and Phasele's Wood). This would help the school by reducing time spent on collecting and banking money separately for each trip and help parents to budget, so they don't end up paying more in the summer term, when more trips take place. Governors will discuss this on Wednesday, so if you have not yet shared your view with the Parent Councillors, please let them know by Wednesday lunchtime, so your view can be taken into consideration.



## YEAR 1 VISIT BARBICAN CENTRE



On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June, Year 1 visited the Barbican Centre to watch a performance by the London Symphony Orchestra of the Carnival of the Animals. This told the story of how the farm, zoo and aquarium animals all looked for a little mosquito. The children were in awe with all the different musical instruments being played, which included cellos, violins, flutes, trombone, piano, trumpets and saxophones. They were also very impressed with the conductor and how she led the whole orchestra. Luckily, by the end of the concert and after the children had a chance to join in and sing with the orchestra, the tiny mosquito was found!

## YEAR 3 VISIT EDUCATION CENTRE

Year 3 visited Hyde Park as part of their Sun, Sea and Ski topic. The children explored and measured different parts of the weather and were weather scientists for an afternoon. We measured the wind direction, and learnt which direction different weather fronts come from. Then, we used ribbons to measure the force of the wind. We also placed thermometers in different parts of the park and compared the temperature in the sun and the shade. We then presented our data in our own weather reports and checked our findings against the BBC weather forecast. It was a beautiful sunny day and we also had time to enjoy the park.



## YEAR 6 GLOBE VISIT

Year 6 visited Shakespeare's Globe as part of our English unit on play scripts. They had a tour of the wonderful theatre and were able to see a live dress rehearsal of The Winter's Tale. The children were captivated by the live performance and were able to take on board the advice the actress gave them for their performance. They went for a workshop and practised acting out different emotions and scenes from the play Macbeth. They are now busy preparing for their very own Shakespeare performance at the Leavers' Show on Thursday 19th July.



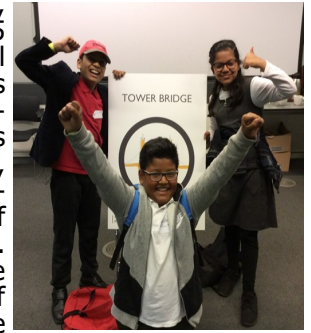
## YEAR 5 CAPOEIRA

As part of their PE this half term, Year 5 have been taking part in Capoeira sessions. The children have been finding out about the origins of the martial art and its links to Brazil. Each week the children have been learning both the physical side of the art, alongside the musical accompaniment. The children have displayed excellent listening and focus during the sessions, and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



## MAYOR OF LONDON'S MATHS CHALLENGE

A big congratulation to Tasnia, Aryan and Tawhid in year 5 who competed in the semi-final round of the Primary Maths Challenge. The children competed in 3 rounds of maths challenges consisting of shape, number and code breaking activities and came out as one of the top four schools in our heat. This means that we will be moving on to the final round of the competition which will take place at city hall in July. Best of luck maths team!



## YEAR 6 ORIENTEERING TRIP TO DEBDEN

As part of our topic 'Get me out of here' and to support the outdoor PE curriculum, Year 6 visited Epping Forest. The children took part in some orienteering activities, which included exploring the forest by following a map. The children were also paired up and had to guide their partners to an allocated position, while their partner was blindfolded. Children had to use specific directional language to help them do this. Later on in the day, the children were able to play Storm the Castle. With 10 defenders surrounding the castle, only 8 children managed to invade, which was a really good result for the defenders.



## YEAR 6 ENTREPRENEURS

Over the last 3 weeks, Year 6 have been taking part in the 'Fiver Challenge'. They were set the challenge to make a profit from £5 per group. The money raised will help towards the funding of the leavers party. First, they had to come up with a logo design and product/game they would like to organise for a 'pop up' shop, next they created a sales pitch to the other KS2 classes, then they had to market their product/game through advertising and finally sell their product/game at a 'pop up' shop in the afternoon. There was a range of stalls: ice lollies, jelly shots, bubble game, lucky dip, sweet shop and many more. The children were very enthusiastic and persuasive throughout the afternoon, encouraging the other children to visit their stalls. Michele and Jackie even popped along to join in the fun with the new candy floss machine! At the end of the day, we gathered all the money and counted it out. After the deduction of the cost of resources, the children raised a massive £215! They were absolutely delighted with the result and are now looking forward to spending it wisely!



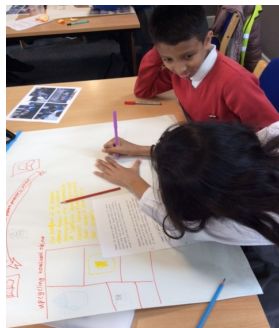


## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEET THE GOVERNORS



On Wednesday 21st June, the School Council met with the governors to enjoy a breakfast together. It was an opportunity for the councillors to share all the different things they have been working on to make Old Palace even better! It was also a chance for the councillors to find out more about the role of a governor and the decisions they make. It was great to see the School Council members talk confidently about their community project, sharing what happens in a meeting and how they make their decisions democratically. The councillors also explained new things they have been doing this year, such as deciding on the assembly rota, updating the School Council notice board weekly and popping along to parent coffee mornings, which the governors were very impressed by!

School Council have also been busy promoting their Community Cohesion - Upcycling. Binyamin and Intisar, from 6B, attended the PDC to present the idea of 'Upcycling' and showed the audience how to turn an old mug into a plant pot. They had to share the project with primary and secondary school councillors, who they had not met before! Binyamin and Intisar represented Old Palace extremely well, presenting their ideas clearly and concisely. You can support the school council project by purchasing a mug plant at the summer fete!



## YEAR 2 VISIT LEEDS CASTLE



This half term, Y2 we have been learning about Castles and Tudors, so to support their learning we visited Leeds Castle in Kent. At the castle, the children were able to see all of the different features we had been learning about including the portcullis, the arrow slits and the moat. It

was a beautiful day and we really enjoyed touring both the castle grounds and seeing all of the different rooms inside including the library, the Queen's bedroom, the banqueting hall and even an old Tudor bathroom. While we were there the children also got to learn about the history of the castle and about some of its different owners. Including King Henry VIII. We had a really great time dressing up and pretending to be different owners of the castle. The children's favourite part of the day was forming their own Tudor army and marching through the gardens.



## YEAR 5 FINANCIAL LITERACY & KIDZANIA



Year 5 have been taking part in financial literacy sessions each week with ABACUS. The sessions have involved understanding the value of money, inflation, the role of the bank and looking at ways to save and be smart with money. The children have been very focussed, sharing lots of fantastic ideas and asking lots of questions. Year 5 would like to say a big thankyou to the ABACUS team and all their volunteers for a very successful project. To continue with our learning, Year 5 visited the fantastic KidZania. The trip was a great opportunity for Year 5 to further their financial literacy by taking part in various job simulations to earn a wage that they could spend on rewards at the end of the trip. The children's behaviour was immaculate, and they thoroughly enjoyed the day!

## Y3 GILWELL PARK TASTER DAY

Last week, Year 3 visited Gilwell Park to experience some adventurous outdoor activities. Out in the woods, the children built shelters, cooked pizzas over open fires, and tried out rock climbing. It was an exciting opportunity to explore some of the activities that will be available on the residential trip in Year 4. There were terrible problems with the traffic, which meant the coach arrived late and the journey was long, but the children did not let this spoil their day. They were impeccably behaved and set a positive example throughout the day. They showed determination and an adventurous spirit, when trying out new things. It was a great way to spend a beautiful, sunny day!



## RECEPTION CELEBRATE FATHERS' DAY

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Reception celebrated Father's Day. Fathers, uncles and grandads were invited to celebrate with us for the morning. We had lots of fun activities, such as making granola yoghurt, cards, party hats and rosettes with a 'best dad in the world' message inside. At the end of our morning, all the dads went outside for a group photo with their children. Thank you to all our visitors—you made it a very special day.

