



Old Palace Newsletter

January 2020

OLD PALACE WELCOMES IN 2020



This year, each year group focused on a different printing technique to make their calendar. Reception had great fun exploring the different patterns and shapes that can be created using vegetables. Year 1 & 2 collected leaves and went on to explore the patterns, shapes and different textures involved in leaf printing. Year 3 & 4 learnt about calligraphy printing. They made a tile from a plate, using collage to add different materials. Year 5 & 6 created foam printing blocks. Year 5 took inspiration from William Morris and Year 6 from Katsushika Hokusai. The children had great fun, learned lots of new skills and created some fantastic calendars.



IMPORTANT DATES



SPRING TERM 1

School finishes **Friday 14th February 2020**

SPRING TERM 2

Return to School **Monday 24th February 2020**

School finishes **2PM Friday 3rd April 2020**

SUMMER TERM 1

Return to School **Tuesday 21st April 2020**

School finishes **Friday 22nd May 2020**

SUMMER TERM 2

Return to School **Monday 1st June 2020**

School finishes **2PM Friday 17th July 2020**

For all other important dates please visit our school website www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk

Any parents thinking of taking children out of school during term time should arrange to meet the AWA before making any travel arrangements.

Y4 & Y5 WESTEND PANTOMIME TRIP

On 22nd January, the children in Year 4 and 5 were invited by Price Waterhouse Cooper to visit the Peacock Theatre in London's West End to watch a performance of 'Treasure Island'. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching the stage production, which had interesting set designs, talented actors and tons of special effects. The pantomime told the story of how Sailor Jack fought a group of pirates determined to get their hands on his treasure. The children especially enjoyed singing along with the actors on stage and seeing the pirates walk the plank!. Although it was a late night, the experience provided lots of creative inspiration for the children and for some was their first visit to a Westend theatre. The children behaved incredibly well and were a credit to the school. A big thank you to PWC and to all the staff who gave up their evening, so the children could attend



Y6 FIGHT EXTINCTION

Last term, Year 6 learnt about endangered animals and extinction as part of their topic: Life Stories. For their Make it Real project they decided to collectively vote for an endangered animal to adopt and protect from extinction through the WWF programme. They raised money by selling biscuits, colouring sheets, word searches and organised a name the teddy competition. Not only did they raise a fantastic **£145**, which allowed them to adopt both a panda and a tiger, but more than this, they helped raise awareness of extinction and the need to act now, before it is too late. Well done, Year 6!



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

PARENTS COFFEE MORNINGS New Year Resolutions

On Wednesday 15th January, the Coffee Morning discussion was on 'New Year. New You' and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. Parents discussed healthier recipes, ways to eat more fruit and vegetable and the importance of a good night's sleep. They also discussed ways to keep themselves and their family more active, such as going swimming, going for power walks & Zumba sessions. It was a very lively session with a lot of discussion and sharing ideas. These small changes will have a very positive impact on wellbeing– so good luck everyone in keeping those resolutions for a healthier 2020!

Somali Community



On Wednesday 22nd January, we held a Somali Parents Coffee morning. During the session, parents tried their skills at a range of board games and discussed the topic of Well-being. Thank you to all those who attended.

Exploitation

On Wednesday 29th January, Sarah Hall, Gangs Co-ordinator from the Exploitation Team based in Mulberry Place visited our school to raise awareness of the council's work to protect children and young people who are being exploited and to prevent further exploitation by developing understanding. She explained how the team go into schools to advise, give support and deliver training and also work closely with the police. Sarah spoke to parents about missing children, gangs, drugs, possession and how to report any incidents. Parents found the workshop very useful and would like another one with dads.

This workshop helped consolidate the key messages from the Knife Crime workshop delivered to both parent and Y6 pupils by the St Giles Trust last May. We have also arranged for Streets of Growth to provide a parent workshop and sessions for Y5&6 pupils next half term on breaking the cycle of youth violence, as we know this is a concern within the local community.

In terms of school procedures, should a child bring a dangerous item into school, such as a knife, the child's parents are immediately contacted and a referral is made to social services (and the police depending on the age of the child). The child is placed on a behaviour support plan, which means their behaviour will continue to be closely monitored and an appropriate sanction is provided based on the school's behaviour policy. The minimum sanction would be an internal exclusion in cases where the child did not try to use the item and had no previous record of poor behaviour. Should a child attempt to use a dangerous item in school, this would result in an immediate external exclusion and the parents of any children involved in the incident would be contacted. The school has a no tolerance policy on the use of the word 'stab' or 'stabbing' and we ask that parents challenge the use of such words if they hear children using them, so together we can make it clear that such language is unacceptable.



Swimming

Following an action from our Parent Council Meetings, we are supporting families to go swimming after school. On Monday 2nd March, families are welcome to meet Shelly at 3.30pm to go swimming to Poplar Baths. If you are interested please book with Shelly by Thursday 27th February. Shelly will accompany you there. You will need to pay

to access the pool. The cost for an adult ticket is £5.70 and child £2.10 PAYG. However, the cost is further reduced by 30% if you purchase a Play and Pay card sold at the baths.

- **Dates for your diary**
- **Reception Phonics & Handwriting Workshop**
- Thursday 6th February 9.10am
- **Coffee Morning 9.00-10.00am**
- Wed 5th February Dads Only
- Wed 12th February Employment & Advice
- Wed 26th February Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Wed 4th March – Book Week
- **Time 2 Engage Project 3.30-4.30pm**
- Wed 26th February KS1
- Wed 4th March KS2
- Wed 11th March KS1
- Wed 18th March KS2

PARENT WORKSHOPS

Money Management

On Friday 10th January, Parents were supported by the 1-2-1 finance adviser from the Bromley By Bow Centre. Suhena Sadia advises parents on benefits, bills, evictions, arrears and applying for grants. She can help you take control of your finances. Parents can book to speak to her on Friday 7th February - her service is free and confidential.

Health & Fitness

Following 2 Netball taster sessions held at the school, we have been very fortunate to have secured Yvonne Rhoden MBE, from the England Netball team to come and run an 8 week netball course for the Mums at Old Palace Primary School. The sessions will run from 9-10am from Thursday 30th January to Thursday 26th March. Each session will cost £1. If you would like to take part in this exciting opportunity, please speak to Shelly or Florida.



Maths

We would like to thank all the parents who attended the Maths on Toast sessions. To further support the teaching of Maths, Mrs Hantar provided a workshop on teaching Bar modelling and Part-whole model to parents of pupils in KS1. There was a good turn out of parents, and they found the workshop so useful that they have requested further sessions.

Rooftop Gardens Visit



On Monday 20th January, parents from the 'Speaking English with Confidence' group attended an off-site Coffee Morning at the Rooftop Gardens in Canary

Wharf. The parents chatted over a cup of tea, enjoying the beauty of the trees, shrubs and plants around them. Some particularly liked the bamboo trees, as they reminded them of Bangladesh. Our community partnership with the DLR enabled the parents to travel for free, so we would like to thank them for their continued support.

POPLAR HARCA BUILDING WORKS



Demolition work started at the Poplar Harca site behind the school on the 6th January. In the Autumn term, we held a parent meeting, where parents had the opportunity to share any concerns with the developers. At this meeting parents asked that we arrange a follow up meeting before the hoardings went up on Bromley High Street. This was arranged for 17th January, and a small number of parents attended to hear an update from the developers. Following the parent meeting, Poplar Harca and Thomas Sindon delivered a safety assembly, including Toolbox Tommy, about keeping safe around building sites. They also launched a competition to design safety posters that will be displayed on the hoardings for all to see. As there is presently lots of construction in the area, we would like to thank Poplar Harca and Bob the Builder for helping the children to know the potential dangers and how best to keep themselves safe.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We have recently updated our Attendance policy to provide greater detail on how we support attendance and the type of evidence that may be requested if a child is absent from school for 3 consecutive days. The revised policy is available on the policies section of the school website.

Remember good attendance is essential for a child to reach their full potential. An attendance rate of 90% each year will mean that a child misses 4 weeks of school by the time they are 16.

Please help reduce absence by not keeping children off for minor ailments (except vomiting & diarrhoea which require the children to stay home for 48 hours following the last episode). The school can administer medication, such as calpol, if the parent brings this to the school office and signs to give medical consent.

G&T FRENCH TRIP

A group of Year 6 children recently enjoyed an exciting day of French at the British Film Institute, learning about the history of French film culture through the last centu-



ry. Much of the day's workshop was delivered in French, giving the children opportunities to incorporate familiar vocabulary learned at school, alongside new topic words and phrases. Although this proved to be challenging, the children found the use of cognates, (similar sounding words in French and English) really helped with this! In the afternoon, the children watched a film, "A Cat in Paris" in which they enjoyed discovering France's capital city with the help of the adventurous hero cat, Dino. Remember we are also offering Year 6 pupils the chance to discover Paris for real on **Tuesday 31st March 2020**. Deposits must be received by 10th February Please see Mrs Hepworth for further details.



This year's Safer Internet Day takes place on **Tuesday 11th February** and we will be holding events throughout the week to mark the occasion. This year the theme is online identity and how young people can show who they are safely on the internet.

Year 4, 5 and 6 parents are invited to attend a workshop with Selda Ziya, Computing Consultant from Tower Hamlets on Monday 10th at 9.10am and will have the opportunity afterwards to join in with some of the activities the children will be doing in their classrooms.

Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 parents are invited to a workshop on Thursday 13th and Year 1-3 parents and will also be able to get involved with the activities their children are doing in class.

- ◆ **Y4, 5 & 6 Safer Internet Day**
Monday 10th February
- ◆ **FS, Y1, 2 & Y3 Safer Internet Day**
Thursday 13th February
- ◆ **Safer Internet Day Assembly**
Friday 14th February

We look forward to seeing you all at these important events, which will help ensure all our children remain safe online

LEADING MATHEMATICS



This year at Old Palace we have had the opportunity to help support other schools in their development and leadership of Mathematics. Twenty teachers and school leaders from across east London visited Old Palace this half term to attend a course on Leadership in Mathematics, lead by Ms McClelland, who is an accredited professional trainer in Mathematics for the North East London Mathematics HUB. The course focused on Maths Mastery and supporting leaders to implement this within their own schools. All visitors were very positive about Old Palace and the work we do in Maths. We look forward to inviting the teachers back next half term when they will also get to visit classes to learn how we are so successful in Maths.

CORE VALUE AWARD - JANUARY 2020

The value of the month for January was **POSITIVITY**. Congratulations to:

- Reception: **RB Kaitlyn & RW Fareed**
- Year 1: **1B Omar & 1D Ameera**
- Year 2: **2A Poppy & 2H Ishaq**
- Year 3: **3L Mabruur & 3S Safa**
- Year 4: **4H Habibah & 4M Yasmeenah**
- Year 5: **5A Rumaysa & 5C Abdala**
- Year 6: **6G Mahera & 6Y Maryam**

WEST HAM FOUNDATION GIRLS TOURNAMENT



On Friday 13th December, the Year 6 Girls Football Team participated in a tournament organised by West Ham Foundation. All the girls showed a positive attitude and effort throughout and represented Old Palace Primary School in the best possible way. We arrived at the venue quite early which gave us time to warm up and go over some skills and tactics planned for the games. We then started practising some shooting, defending, passing and space appreciation drills to help with accuracy and precision in the tournament. The girls showed courage and perseverance, even though they lost their first 3 games. With each game the girls remained resilient, getting better in terms of fitness, communication and football skills. Well done and better luck next time!

RECEPTION VISIT THE DISCOVERY STORY CENTRE

Reception recently visited the Discover centre as part of their Spring 1 theme: Superheroes.

They took the D8 bus to get to the centre. At the centre, they went to a story workshop and met 'Hootah' who was a big story machine! Hootah told them a story and with his help, they made their own story up as a class! To help them create their story, they explored a room full of exciting and fun things, including a slide, book corner and a hidden underground cave! They had a lot of fun and we look forward to reading all those great ideas in their next stories in class!



YEAR 1 VISIT THE CUTTY SARK

Year 1 visited the Cutty Sark and Greenwich Maritime museum, as part of their topic on famous explorers, such as Columbus, Magellan & Cook. Aboard the ship, the children learnt about the history of this famous tea clipper through storytelling, singing and dancing. They had fun making up stories of voyages for the different figureheads and even got to design and create their own figurehead. The children then had an opportunity to explore the different decks and thoroughly enjoyed going in and out from the different cabin rooms and finding out how tiny they were! The children then visited the Maritime museum to see other famous explorer ships. What a great trip it was!



Y4 VISIT SIR JOHN SOANES MUSEUM

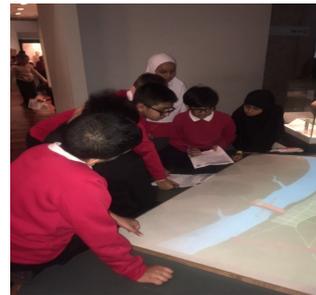


Year 4 visited Sir John Soane's Museum this half term as part of their learning on the Ancient Greeks. Sir John Soane was an architect, who had a huge collection of Ancient

Greek artefacts, which he kept at home. Upon his death, he requested that the home he built be turned into a museum for the public to be able to see his collection and learn about different cultures in history. Year 4 enjoyed learning about the history of the artefacts and seeing different sculptures first hand during a tour of the museum. They also had a chance to work as an architect to design their own temple, dedicated to a Greek god. They discussed the myths they knew and learnt about new myths through sculptures. They had a wonderful time and came back with lots of information to further their learning on the Ancient Greeks.

Y5 VISIT MUSEUM OF LONDON

This term, Year 5 were fortunate enough to visit the Museum of London. The children are currently learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, including how they arrived, why they came to the UK and what their lives were like.



The children saw some fascinating artefacts at the museum, such as combs made of bone, jewelled broaches and handmade weapons that were used by the Saxons and Vikings. One of the children's favourite features was a model of a home that they got to go inside. Inside the home, they were able to feel what it might have been like growing up as a Saxon. They lived very simply and had to work very hard to grow their own crops and protect their burhs. Overall, it was a great trip and helped bring the Anglo-Saxons to life!

Y6 VISIT BLIZARD INSTITUTE

This half term, Year 6 visited the Centre of the Cell located in Whitechapel, as part of their Fit for Life topic. The children sat in a Queen Mary lecture hall and had the pleasure of being taught by a professional of medics. They learnt about the circulatory system, the heart, the different types of blood cells and their functions. The activities were very amusing and enlightening and helped the children remember their learning back at school. Later this term they will launch a campaign to highlight the dangers of passive smoking.

