



Old Palace Newsletter

November 2023

YEAR 2 FESTIVAL ASSEMBLY



In the Autumn term the children in year 2 have been learning about Hinduism. As part of their learning, they had the opportunity to visit a Hindu temple, in Upton Park, where they got to see some of the different spiritual objects for Hindus like Puja trays, bells, diva lamps and statues of Gods and Goddesses. The Hindu priest answered children's questions about Hinduism and Diwali. He talked to them about some of the different Gods, and showed them the Hanuman statue in the mandir as well as some of the other statues. The children learnt more about specific traditions Hindus have when worshipping and celebrating, including things like taking shoes off when entering the temple and having their own mandirs at home where they can pray. The children found out more about Diwali, the festival of light, which they then used to help with the assembly. Following their visit to the temple, children performed the story of Rama and Sita, as part of their festival assembly. They also shared some of the information they learnt on their trip, like the different ways people celebrate Diwali around the world. Well done on your fantastic assembly Year 2!



LBTH IMMUNISATIONS CLINICS

If your child has missed a vaccination offered in school, they can still receive the vaccination by attending a local clinic. Vaccination UK have arranged drop in clinics in various locations for

Flu Vaccinations: Rec – Year 11 pupils
MMR: Rec – Year 13 pupils
HPV: Year 8 pupils
DTP & Meningitis ACWY: Year 9 pupils

Please refer to time and dates below:
 1st December, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Gough Walk
 5th December, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, ELM
 12th December, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Suttons Wharf
 14th December, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Gough Walk

IMPORTANT DATES



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Please refer to child's letter for appointment times
 12th, 13th & 14th December 2023

FESTIVE SEASON

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Year 1 Festival Assembly @ 10am
Christmas Lunch for pupils from 12pm

Thursday 21st December 2023

Children's Christmas Party Starting @ 2pm
Parents Christmas Party @ 2PM Lower hall

END OF AUTUMN HALF TERM

School finishes Friday 22nd December 2023 @ 2PM

RETURN TO SCHOOL

Return to school Monday 8th January 2024

SPRING HALF TERM

School finishes Friday 9th February 2024
Return to school Monday 19th February 2024

Please visit our school website for a full list of term dates
www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk

RECEPTION VISIT DISCOVERY CENTRE



Reception visited the Discover Story Centre on 28th & 29th November. The children started their journey by taking the D8 bus. When they arrived, the children were taken to a discovery story room. Here they were introduced to Hootah, and the story of the squiggly-diggily. The children were asked to explore their environment and be inspired by what they see, so that when they came back together they could make a story of their own. There were letters on the floating clouds (high up) and there was a miniature mine, where the children put on the lights and found ruby and coloured gems. The children ran through the Jelly forest and up the ship slide, escaping the pirates. The children enjoyed exploring the book area, and their eyes caught the beautiful display of planets and moons, high up in the midnight sky. At the end of their exploration, the children sat together and shared with the class the things they saw and brought together all their ideas, they created a story about a thirsty brown grizzly bear hiding underground!

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

COFFEE MORNINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

Violence Against Woman Workshop



On Tuesday 31st October Amy-Kate from the Violence against Woman and girls & hate Crime Team Tower Hamlets council came and spoke to parents about identifying the local needs and issues and how they help inform about services, programmes and projects to reduce Violence against Woman and Girls in Tower Hamlets. The crimes include domestic abuse, violence, sexual violence, exploitation, stalking, 'honour'-based abuse (female genital mutilation, forced marriage, and 'honour' killings), digital or online abuse ('revenge porn', 'up skirting'), among others. If you have further comments or questions, please email: domestic.violence@towerhamlets.gov.uk or call **0207 364 4986**.

Please note this is not an emergency service, hours of operation are Monday-Friday 09:00-17:00 and not open during public holidays.

Energy Workshop

Thank you to all the parents who attended our coffee morning on Thursday 2nd November. The topic was on 'Energy Saving'. Haseena Khan from the Bromley By Bow Centre spoke to parents /carers on how they can change energy usage habits and consider cheaper options. She gave tips, tricks and up to date advice on tariffs and switching. Following from the coffee morning we had several parents sign up for a free OCN accredited course about 'Saving Energy' which is being delivered by BBBC. Any further information please contact empower@bbbc.org.uk or alternatively contact on 07432 600614.

Phonics Workshop

On Wednesday 8th November Mrs Rahman & Ms Dias Patel delivered the Phonics & Bug Club workshop to the Foundation parents. Parents were given tips on how to support their child with phonics at home, a hand-out was given to support them. Details of the handouts are published on our school website [HERE](#)

School Money Workshop

On Thursday 9th November, Michele (School business manager) went through step by step how to make a payment for trips and breakfast club. We had some brave parents that went up and tried login in to their account and attempted to make a payment- Well done to those parents. If you have any problem please contact school or alternatively come to the main office and Michele or Dobbir will be able to assist you.

Biscuit Decorating Workshop



On Wednesday 15th November, our Parents & Parent Councillors dedicated their time to support the school by decorating biscuits for 'Children In Need'. In total they decorated 734 biscuits. Thank you to those parents who took part in helping with the fund raising.

Bereavement Workshop

On Thursday 23rd November, Holly Samson, our Drama Therapist from Connect-Ed Counselling & Therapy Service delivered a session on Bereavement & Loss of a family member. Bereavement is a difficult topic for adults and children. During the session Holly spoke about, how to deal with trauma, feelings & emotions, and acknowledging feelings. Children can talk to Holly during Talk time. Talking about it can reassure they are not alone and it can help them to understand that they will eventually be able to overcome their pain. If any parents would like any further support please email on hsamson2.211@lgflmail.org

Somali Coffee Morning

On Thursday 30th November, we held a coffee morning for the parents from the Somali community. Mohammed from the Parental Engagement Team was invited too. He shared the services available in the borough for the parents to access and to be supported. If you missed the session and would like to get in touch with Mohammed, please email parenting@towerhamlets.gov.uk or call 020 7364 6398

Parent Council 2023-24

The following Parents have been nominated to represent their child's class. All the parent council meeting have taken place over the over last 2 weeks. Details of the meetings will be published in our next newsletter.

Class	Child	Parent
RD	Nawshid	Rehana Khanum
	Abrar	Mohammed Masudul Hoque
RB	Maryam	Ruksana Begum
	Aaliyah	Masuma Begum
10	Ruqaiya	Aleya Begum
	Yusuf	Yashrun Nehar
1W	Nafee	Mahmooda Begum
	Safa	Rupsana Begum
2B	Aahil	Rajia Khatun
	Maria	Soman Miah
2H	Amima	Mohammed Abdul Quayum
	Alizah	Shefali Begum
3H	Mehrin	Suma Begum
	Surayya	Shefa Begum
3K	Ibrahim	Rolly Begum
	Hamza	Sabia Khanom
4D	Aliyah	Lumna Begum
	Vacancy	Please speak to Shelly if you would like to become a Parent Councillor
4T	Zohha	Jalal Miah
	Afreen	Husna Islam
5D	Sulayman	Shahanaz Sultana
	Musab	Salina Khatun
5H	Aaminah	Aminul Islam
	Ariyana	Rukeya Tawhid
6A	Sulieaman	Amina Parul Begum
	Hamza	Shamima Begum
6W	Umair	Mohammed Abdul Rahim
	Vacancy	Please speak to Shelly if you would like to become a Parent Councillor

Learning Through Play



Thank you to all the Foundation parents who participated in a 3 week course 'Learning through Play'. This was delivered by Mark Penn from The Parental Engagement Team. The course was to empower parents to feel confident about engaging with their child or children, using play as the basis to explore other areas of the Early Years Curriculum. The parent's knowledge of this stage of their child's development was varied, and by the end of the course they had shared that their knowledge and that they had gained more confidence around this topic. They also spoke about understanding the importance of this stage and how their relationships had improved and developed because of the course.

ESOL

Mohammed Rumi from the Idea Store is delivering our ESOL classes on site every Thursdays 1:30-3:30. All our courses are part-time within school hours. Courses are normally 10-12 weeks long, with three terms over the year. Parents have been assessed in their skills before they have been enrolled and offered a personalised approach to learning, ensuring that courses meet their needs and that they are supported in reaching their goals.

YEAR 2 & 5 FIRE SAFETY WORKSHOP



This half term Years 2 and 5 had a visit from the London Fire Brigade to teach them about fire safety. During the visit local firefighter Joynul visited the children and brought along some resources to help them know more about fire safety. In year 2, they were taught about the importance of fire alarms, potential fire hazards and what to do in the event of a fire. They enjoyed identifying different parts of a firefighter's uniform and fire engine, as well as asking different questions about fire safety. In year 5 the children also really enjoyed the workshop. It was an informative presentation building on what the children learnt in year 2. The children were able to play games like fire cluedo, which kept them engaged and made the learning more memorable. The firefighter was able to share personal experiences of working in the London Fire Brigade which was really helpful for the children. Remember fire safety is really important, please make sure everyone in your household is aware of what to do in case of a fire and they know their emergency exit routes!

CHILDREN IN NEED



After discussions with the School Council, this year the annual Children in Need appeal took place on Friday 17th November. The Children in Need charity aims to support children across the country and globally.

Each year Old Palace takes part in fundraising efforts to help raise money to support children. This year we ran events in school from Monday 13th – Friday 17th November, which included a design a Pudsey competition, a penalty shootout competition, selling Pudsey wristbands, pin badges and ears and our annual bake sale where children could buy baked goods and spotty biscuits! Thank you again to those families who donated to our bake sale, it was very much appreciated and enjoyed by the children! There were so many fantastic Pudsey competition entries this year, well done to everyone who entered and showed off their brilliant creativity. Congratulations to our winning Pudsey entries:

- ⇒ **EYFS: Mayeda RD**
- ⇒ **KS1: Alizah 2H**
- ⇒ **LKS2: Afreen 4T**
- ⇒ **UKS2: Tabiba 6W**

We were also blown away with the effort and resilience shown by all who entered the penalty shoot-out! It was great to see the children getting active and having fun competing. Well done to our winners of the Penalty Shoot Out:

- ⇒ **KS1: Rayyan 2B**
- ⇒ **LKS2: Yusuf Zayd 4T**
- ⇒ **UKS2: Rayaana 5H**

On Friday 17th November children were invited to come to school dressed up either in their comfy pyjamas or in their spot-tacular polka-dots. The children really enjoyed doing their school work all dressed up and it made the day extra special. Just as this year's theme 'Spot-tacular' suggests the generosity from our families was indeed spectacular! Thank you for all who donated and took part in the activities.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE: ONLINE SAFETY

Below are recommended child-friendly search engines we use at Old Palace. We encourage pupils to use 'safe search' engines both inside and outside school. No search engine is ever 100% safe but 'safe' search engines can provide a way to reduce the risk for children when searching for information, images and other medias.

Swiggle – a child friendly search engine from SWGfL. Features a report button and a screen cover featuring "SwiggleBot" - should anything inappropriate be found. "Swiggle uses the very latest search technologies to make your searches more useful. It not only gives you safer access to online content, but encourages responsible behaviour too."

Kiddle – Kiddle is another safe search engine created by Google – highly visual to make it easier for young children to navigate the search results.

CORE VALUE AWARD - NOVEMBER 2023

The value of the month for November was

COURAGE

Congratulations to:

- **Reception:** RD Raasiquil & RP Zoya
- **Year 1:** 10 Eliza & 1W Emran
- **Year 2:** 2B Zain & 2H Taimun
- **Year 3:** 3H Maherul & 3K Asiyah
- **Year 4:** 4D Chris & 4T Yusuf Z
- **Year 5:** 5D Jasmine & 5H Noelle
- **Year 6:** 6A Manha & 6Y Juhan

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

In support of Anti-Bullying the school began with Odd Sock Day and followed the theme Make a Noise! The adults and children wore odd socks to help promote and celebrate what makes us all unique. Throughout the week each year group carried out activities that helped raise awareness, identify and tackle the issues of bullying, including online bullying. This included writing a diary entry, advice letters, making anti-bully posters and leaflets, re-enacting scenes with a resolution. We also had lots of fantastic odd sock and poster competition entries that children created



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coffee Morning Raising money for Humanitarian Causes: Tuesday 5th December 2024

Dads Coffee Morning

Thursday 7th December 2024 @ 9am

3 Week 'Parenting' Course

6th, 13th 20th December 2024

Parents trip to Roof Garden, Docklands

Monday 11th December 2024

Parent Voice: After School Club

12th December @ 9-9.30pm

Coffee Morning Christmas decoration

Thursday 14th December 2024

YEAR 6 VISIT NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM



The children attended the Natural History Museum and began their journey at the 'From the beginning' gallery, where they collectively compared the living species. They found evidence of flying reptiles and how species adapted themselves on land over a period of time. They then applied this knowledge, when they were divided into five groups during the evolution workshop, and observed replica fossils. They were provided with some information on four different habitats and they had to use their understanding of adaptation to match the fossils to the correct timeline with the correct habitat. They compared the sizes of the fossils to determine how the species had evolved, with all the groups claiming the species had evolved to become larger over time. They then observed a practical demonstration to explain the process of evolution and how it occurs through natural selection.

YEAR 5 VISIT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY

Year 5 visited the Greenwich Observatory this half term. We saw the Meridian line for a Greenwich Mean Time, which we have learnt about in Science. We also saw an old sun dial and had a very windy view over London. When we went into the planetarium, we saw projections and a presentation about our solar system. We saw how the planets orbit the sun and got a close up view of Mars, which is a rocky planet and Saturn, a gas giant. We also got to see how many stars are in the universe that we can see and tried to imagine just how many planets there are in the universe if every star had at least one planet.



YEAR 3 VISIT GUNNERSBURY PARK MUSEUM



This half term in year 3 we have been learning all about Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. To support their learning the children had the opportunity to go on a trip to Gunnersbury Park and Museum where they took part in a workshop that linked to their learning about 'Surviving in Stone Age'. They started by

looking at different artifacts from the Stone Age period like a woolly mammoth's tooth, which was found underneath a local pond, a hand axe, which was used for digging and hunting, along with pictures of drawings found in caves, which were believed to be created during the Stone Age period. Next, they learned about the 3 stages of the Stone Age: the Paleolithic, the Mesolithic and the Neolithic time periods. Children were split into tribes and they built shelters that replicated those people would have lived in during this time, they did so by using animal skin and sticks. In their shelters they had the opportunity to pretend they were Stone Age hunters and foragers looking for food. This helped the children learn more about what people in the Stone Age needed to survive, like food, water, shelter and warmth. The children really enjoyed the trip!

YEAR 1 VISIT RAGGED SCHOOL MUSEUM



This half term, Year 1 visited the Ragged School Museum, to consolidate their History learning on the topic of Past and Present Schools. At the museum, the children took part in two fantastic workshops. They went back in time to the Victorian era and experienced what lessons were like from a Victorian style teacher. They really enjoyed the session,

especially using a chalkboard instead of a whiteboard or computer, though felt the teachers in the past were a bit more strict! The children were also introduced to the different jobs pupils from the past would have done at boarding school, such as washing their clothes without a washing machine. They had a go at using these old appliances.

DT MECHANISMS

For our Autumn design and technology day we focused on mechanisms. Children across the school focused on different mechanisms, how they work and what they are useful for. As part of their learning, the children researched, designed and made their own mechanical toys using tech-card. Designing and building these toys helped the children to get a better understanding of simple and complex mechanisms, such as levers, linkages, cams and pulleys. It also helped them in understanding how they work.

The children first designed their product, taking care to make sure that it met the needs of the user. They were then tasked with designing their own toys. During the design phase children began to think about what they would like their mechanical toys to look like, thinking about the colours, designs and patterns they would use. Once the children had designed their toys they got straight to making them! There were lots of fantastic different mechanical toys created across the school. Year 1 created moving cards using linkages. Year 2 made their own box cars using wheels and axels. Year 3 made spinning top toys using cams and screws. Year 4, 5 and 6 designed toys that built on their knowledge from previous years, using wheels, axels, linkages, cams and screws, but using more complex designs! Year 6 even brought in elements of electricity by making their battery operated toys light up! Once the children had finished creating their toys they then evaluated them, looking at ways they could make them even better next time. The children really enjoyed taking part in DT day and can't wait to bring their toys home to show you!

