

Dear Parents and Carers,
 Welcome back to school and happy new year.
 It has been a fantastic start to the new term, the children are enjoying learning about their new topics. I have already seen some great work in class and from home.
 I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that trainers can only be worn in school on PE days and they should be black. School shoes are part of the uniform and must be worn on uniform days. Please note that plimsolls are needed for PE in the gym. It is important for children to have plimsolls in the event of a school evacuation.
 Please ask your child about "fantastic walking" which has been introduced to enable us to move safely around school, It has been amazing to see all the children walking around so sensibly.
 Thank you for all your support.
 Mrs Jerrom

Dates for your Diary

Thurs 25th Jan - Intra house Sports Day	W/B Mon 5th Feb - Children's Mental Health Week
Fri 26th Jan - Yr4 DT Day	Fri 9th Feb - Break up for Half Term
Fri 26th Jan - Earth House Mufti Day	Mon 19th Feb - Children return to school
Fri 26th Jan - Boys Football vs St Elpheges	
Fri 2nd Feb - Boys Football vs Barrow Hedges	

School Attendance

This term, we will need to focus especially hard to improve our attendance figures if we are to achieve our target of 96+% for all children. Please remember that schools are **not able to authorise** holidays during term-time. Class attendance figures for this term so far are below:

Lemur - 88%	Tiger - 88%
Lion - 87%	Koala - 93%
Dolphin - 88%	Kangaroo - 91%
Arctic Fox - 94%	Hummingbird - 92%
Wolf - 89%	Toucan - 93%
Husky - 93%	Seal - 93%
Leopard - 95%	Penguin - 92%

Headteacher Awards

Krishma Y3 - for writing a volcano poem
 Rosalee Y3 - for great teamwork in PE
 Frankie Y5 - for a good attitude towards learning
 Amelia Y3 - for great teamwork in PE
 Rehan Y5 - for making mature choices
 Glennis Y3 - for making a fabulous model of the earth
 Frankie-Leigh Y3 - for fabulous homework about Mary Anning
 Henry Y3 - for amazing homework about different rocks and the layers of the earth
 Mehar Y3 - For writing a great volcano poem and research about Mary Anning
 Irin Y3 - for great homework about the layers of the earth
 Leo Y6 - for taking great pride in his homework about the Arctic



Details of our policies and procedures can be found on our website Including Data Protection and our Privacy Notice. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the School Office.

UKS2 News (Years 5 and 6)

Year 5 has had a busy start to 2024 and worked off most of the figgy pudding already! We have begun to read our new book, 'The Secret Garden' and we are intrigued by the dislikeable, but unfortunate, main character. In Topic we have started learning about how land is used in the UK and In English we are focusing on the land used for allotments. We will be writing a non-chronological report about the history and benefits of allotments, as well as tips on how to make them successful.

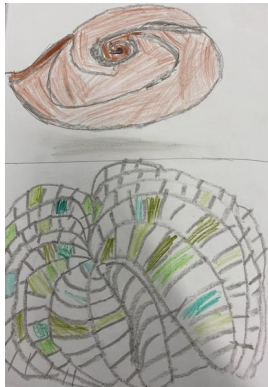
Year 6 have begun their new topic of 'Frozen Kingdoms' and the weather seems to have got the message also! We have started our new book 'The Wolf Wilder' by Katherine Rundell and children are learning what life was like in Russia under the Tsar's regime. The children will be writing non-chronological reports about the Arctic. This week has begun with practice SATs for the children which they have put lots of effort into - well done Year 6. Letters about booster groups (if your child has been selected) will be going out next week in preparation for them starting the week commencing 29th January 2024.

Mrs McLean

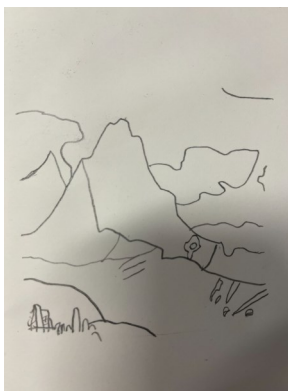
LKS2 News

Both years 3 and 4 have gotten off to a fantastic start with their new topics.

In Year 3, we have started our brand new topic 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles'. We are learning about properties of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and how they are formed. We are also going to be writing a non-chronological information report about the earth's crust. In art we have been looking at creating motif drawings of fossils and objects with detail.



Year 4 children have started learning about rivers in our new topic 'Misty Mountain, Winding River'. So far we have learnt about different features of a river and how the journey of the river starts in the upper course and runs through the middle course to the lower course. In English lessons we have been improving our grammar skills of expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, pronouns and conjunctions so that we are ready to write amazing diary entries about our river walk. In Art the children are developing their sketching skills by looking at mountainous landscapes through a viewfinder and drawing what they could see.



Mrs Iraola

Foundation Stage

Welcome back to Nursery and Reception and a big welcome to the new children who have started Nursery this term. The children in Early Years come back to school very happy and have settled well. They have enjoyed sharing stories about what they have been up to over their two weeks holiday.

Nursery have started a new topic this term called 'Starry Night.' The children have enjoyed their sharing the book called 'Whatever Next?' written by Jill Murphy. The children have been engaged at the D.T. table where they have been making rockets to allow them to fly to the moon, using a range of junk modelling materials. Jake in Nursery had made a lovely model. When he was asked what he had made, he replied "it's an explosion of happiness!"

In Maths this week, the children have been recognising numbers on rockets and counting out certain amounts. The children have enjoyed recognising their names. Please continue to practise this at home

In Reception, our topic this term is 'Long ago'. We have been discussing what babies need and why and how their own needs have changed as they grow up. We made our own baby catalogues by choosing baby items and describing why a baby needs them. This week we have been reading the book 'Rosie's Hat' by Julia Donaldson. We used the words 'then', 'next' and 'after that' to describe what happened in the story. In Phonics, we have learnt the sounds ai, ee, igh, oa, /oo/ in 'zoom', /oo/ in book, /ar/ and /or/. We have also learnt the tricky words 'was', 'you' and 'they'. In Maths, we are learning about the composition of numbers and that we can make them in different ways. e.g. 0+5, 1+4, 2+3 all make 5. Please continue practising recognising all the sounds we have learnt so far and continue developing the understanding of composition of numbers. Your children are all taking home two books this week. The 'Pleasure for Reading book' is a book which the adult can read to the child and enjoy together. The Phonics book is for your child to sound out and read to an adult. Please read everyday as this will help children to recognise their sounds and practise blending sounds together to make words. We hope you enjoy reading over the weekend.



Miss Digman

Sports News

We start the new year with a variety of different sports clubs. These include football, multi-skills and badminton just to name a few. This week sees two football matches for the boys team as they have made round 2 of both the Borough and Robin Cup. On Wednesday they played against Stanley Park and although the boys put up a good fight, two goals in the first half saw us with an uphill struggle. In the second half each school scored bringing the final score to 3-1 to Stanley Park - we wish them well in round 3!

Unfortunately the match today against Beddington Primary has been postponed due to a frozen pitch. Next week, on Friday 26th, the boys will play St Elpheges in the league.

Mrs McLean

KS1 News (Years 1 & 2)

Year 1 started the new term with a computing project. They worked in groups and learnt how to record their own short video to explain how to make an origami dog. Each took on the roles of director, presenter and camera operator. They are excited to start their next computing task where they will be creating digital versions of art in the style of famous artists. As part of the Bright Lights, Big City topic the children have been finding out about different London landmarks categorising them as royal buildings, places of worship, memorials, engineering structures, entertainment venues and physical features.

Miss Thirtle

Absence Request Forms

Absence request forms are now available from the school office. If you are requesting time off for your child during term time then this form needs to be completed and handed in to the office. Authorisation will only be given for requests of absence due to exceptional circumstances.

Jane Barbury

Earth House - Mufti Day

Earth house will have a mufti day on Friday 26th January as a reward for achieving 13,723 house points in the Autumn 2 term. Please remember that no football shirts are allowed.

Congratulations to all in Earth house!!

School Term and Holiday Dates for the 2023/24 Academic Year

AUTUMN TERM

School Holiday

Monday 4th September - Friday 20th October

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October - Thursday 21st December

School Holiday

Friday 22nd December - Friday 5th January

SPRING TERM

School Holiday

Monday 8th January - Friday 9th February

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March

School Holiday

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

SUMMER TERM

School Holiday

Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June - Wednesday 24th July

INSET DAYS

Monday 4th September

Tuesday 5th September

Monday 4th December

Monday 8th January

Wednesday 24th July