



# NEWSLETTER



## HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the last Friday of September, I cannot help reflect upon how much we have achieved in just a few weeks. Our children have visited the Houses of Parliament, The University of Oxford and The Isle of Wight! We have hosted two courses for Camden colleagues on Reading – showcasing the great work happening in our classes and intervention groups. We have had our own Wandle Hub review of phonics and reading and have established after school clubs and a tuition program for Years 5 and 6.

And, most importantly of all, children have been supported to settle in their new class, to welcome new friends and to understand our expectations about what it means to "HAVE A GO" and "DO YOUR BEST." We have made a very positive start. Thank you for your support.

*J. Wade*  
Head Teacher

# YEAR 6

## Year 6 School Journey to the Isle of Wight

### The Journey by Cyrus

Our journey to the Isle of Wight from Argyle felt long (because of the road works), but the coach was so comfortable that I even slept! The ferry from Portsmouth was nice and the crossing was smooth. On the way, we ate lunch on the deck; there was a nice view of the ocean. I was excited to see our rooms when we finally arrived in Little Canada.

### Accommodation by Vanessa

At the PGL in Little Canada, the rooms were especially comfortable. They had beautiful showers, lovely beds and enough space. There were hangers and shelves for clothes and bunk beds for sleeping. Everything felt very clean when we arrived. The cabins were surrounded by nature and felt very safe.



### Food by Yasin

There was a wide variety of food. I enjoyed it as they had hash browns for breakfast, pizza and halal meat. There was always the option of a salad bar and fruit was provided at every meal. It was very hygienic in the dining room and buzzing when lots of schools were eating at the same time. The kitchen staff were all very kind and we used our manners.



### PGL staff by Yakub

The staff were so nice and never raised their voices. They explained about the activities clearly and fastened and checked our harnesses to make sure we were safe. Our team leader, Jessica, looked after us well and always remembered to check in with us to see how we were enjoying ourselves.



# YEAR 6

## Monday Activities

### Archery by Liyana

We began by learning how to stand safely to put our arrows in our bows. You had to pick the arrow up carefully by the non-sharp end and place it between notches on the bow string and between 'rabbit ears' on the bow. We then had to aim at targets. We practised until we were confident and then had two teams and played a game against each other, in which you had to hit different colours on the target in order. It was hard but fun.



### Fencing by Athena

This was my first activity. We warmed up by playing a few games which helped us with fencing footwork. We then learnt how to stand with a foil. Then we put on a mask and chest plate and started battling against a partner. We scored points when we managed to touch our partner's chest with our foils. It took lots of energy and we learnt some skills.

### ... and Ridwaan

Fencing is a sport I was always interested in so when they first put us in gear I felt as if my breathing was loud as my heart was pumping with excitement. We had to fence our friends, even if we didn't want to! After a couple of matches, it became really, really fun. I recommend it for any future Isle of Wight visits!



### Archery tag by Yusra

Our first evening activity was Archery Tag which we did indoors. I liked it because I felt safe as we wore protective head gear and we were given safety instructions. It was really fun because we fired arrows with sponges on the end. It was truly fun as we could fire at our teachers. The PGL staff were kind and encouraged both teams to win.



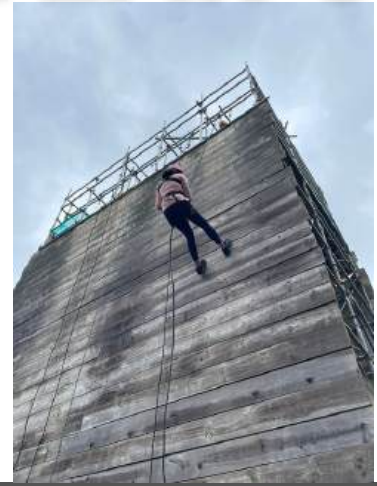
## Tuesday Activities

### Low level ropes by Ridwaan

Low ropes was one of the most interesting activities on the Isle of Wight as we had to work as a trio. One person was on the ropes and the others were squirrel ninjas, who had to stand by to help keep the main person on the rope. There were different courses, including ropes with tyres, ropes where you had to balance and pull yourself along with dangling ropes above. It was a challenge to keep your balance – even with ninja support!

## Abseiling by Retaj

When I first saw what we had to do, I was scared and thought I'd never do it but I faced the challenge. You had to climb up ladders to reach the top of a tower, then make sure your harness was secure. You attached the harness to a rope which was let down slowly and you used your feet to walk down a wall in a sitting position. I felt proud to have done it.



## Beach walk by Tayyabah

On Tuesday afternoon, our amazing PGL workers – Harry and Harry – took us to the beach for activities which were extremely fun. First, we had to build four sandcastles with 4 doors, 8 windows, a moat and a drawbridge. It was very calming and great for relaxation. But we couldn't go into the sea for our safety. Then we tried to make funny faces of one Harry out of rocks, sand, shells and seaweed. After that, we did a scavenger hunt to search for the Isle of Wight Blue, which in an emerald stone from a sunken Spanish pirate ship, worth loads of money. We started collecting the other items on the lists, including seashells coloured green, blue and purple like the galaxies. It was sooo nice!

## Dragon boating by Faaduma

Dragon boats are like long canoes. You sit in pairs and have a single oar. We began by training. The moves we learnt to start rowing were forward attention and backwards attention. To slow down the command was 'Easy, easy, easy' and you had to rest your oar across the side of the boat. We also had a role call in case the boat capsized (this rarely happens and didn't happen to us after our training). We raced against a team from another school. We won the first race but they won the others but only just.



## Campfire by Aayan

On our second (and last) night we had a campfire which we shared with a class from another school. It was very fun and we sang many songs, were told stories and some of us even told jokes! We had toasted marshmallows and the campfire kept us hot.

# Wednesday Activities

# YEAR 6



## Zip wire by Surayya

Zipwiring looked scary but was fun. We had to learn steps: first, we had to karate chop the handbag (the rope!) to release it; next, we had to lean back so the rope could be pulled down; finally, we had to follow a 'flip flop' procedure to undo clips. Then we flew along the zip wire – it felt really fast.

## Climbing by Aseel

We went on an indoor climbing wall. We warmed up and felt confident as we started by going a little way to a black line. When I climbed again, I reached the target near the top and had to hit a red button. It felt easy for me as I don't mind going high as I had practised going high during 'Flying into physics' in Year 5.



# Year 5 Amethyst

To support their work around the Greek Myth Theseus and the Minotaur, 5 Amethyst made their own labyrinth (maze). We started with a problem solving session on how to plot one route in and out of their labyrinth made either out of 6 concentric circles or a coil pattern with added walls.

When they were confident that their labyrinth worked they recreated it with card and string before mounting the finished labyrinth on a terracotta pattern that they had printed, adding traditional patterns from Ancient Greece as a finishing touch.



In Science, we have started our work on forces. Forces are a push or a pull that can make an object move; stop; go faster; go slower; or change direction. They can be contact forces - where something touches the object in order for it to move or the non contact forces magnetism and gravity that can move an object without touching it



This week we carried out an investigation into friction. The children used stopwatches to time the spin of a spinning top on different surfaces. They learned why we need to take repeat readings, drew their own tables to record information and found the median value. Finally they used all that information to find out what material would create the most friction to slow down the spinning top.



# Year 2



This week has been an exciting one for our Year 2 students as they embarked on their very first school trip! We visited the Canal Museum, where the children had the unique opportunity to ride on a real canal boat along Regent's Canal. It was an unforgettable experience, and the children were thrilled! They also learned about life on the canal during the Victorian era, including the fascinating types of cargo that were transported.

In the classroom, our learning continued with fun and engaging activities. In Maths, we focused on estimating on a number line and writing numbers up to 100. The children have been working hard, practicing writing numbers like fifty-one, seventy-three, and more!

As part of our ongoing transport topic, the children created timelines, tracing the evolution of transportation from the humble horse and cart to the modern jet plane. They really enjoyed learning about how transportation has changed over the years.



**Upcoming Event:**  
We are thrilled to announce that on **Thursday 3rd October**, we will be going on another exciting trip—this time to The British Library! The children will participate in a poetry workshop, so please save the date and be on the lookout for more details soon.

# YEAR 1

Wednesday afternoon was an exciting day for our young learners in Jade class as they embarked on their first session in the **Garden Classroom**. This hands-on outdoor experience is just the beginning, with many more sessions to come. The children eagerly put on their wellies and waterproof trousers, ready to dive into a world of nature and adventure.

Upon entering the school garden, Eden, our guide, warmly welcomed the class. The children enjoyed a variety of circle games and had the chance to explore the wonderful natural surroundings.

**Ahmed** shared, "The hammock is like a swing, and the two trees are strong to hold us up."

**Aisha** discovered, "The rock is not soft but smooth, and if I rub two together, it will make fire."

**Ayaana** noticed, "There are so many different coloured leaves on the table, and with the white stone, I can write 'love.'"

**Abdullahi** observed, "Mud, mud is dirty."



## Story Adventures!

This week in Year 1, we began exploring 'Mr Gumpy's Outing'. The children engaged in role-play and made exciting predictions about the story.

**Karim** predicted, "They may fall in the river. A hammerhead shark will eat them!"

We love their creativity and encourage you to ask your child about their favourite parts of the story and what are their predictions!





# RECEPTION



This week in Reception, we've been exploring 'Oliver's Fruit Salad', a delightful story where Oliver is unsure about eating fruit. However, after helping to make a real fruit salad, his curiosity gets the better of him, and he gives it a try then he realises that he actually loves fruit! This sparked lots of conversations among the children about the foods they enjoy and how we can make healthy choices with what we eat.

In Drawing Club, we've been watching 'Curious George Learns to Brush His Teeth'. The children really engaged with George's adventure and it helped us discuss the importance of brushing our teeth twice a day—once in the morning and again before bed. It's been a fun way to reinforce good habits and routines around health and hygiene. We're hope all the children pick up these positive habits so keep encouraging these healthy choices at home.

**Reminder:** Phonics Workshop for Parents begins at 9am until 9.45am.



# NURSERY



In Nursery this week we continued with our topic of Nursery Rhymes and practised singing new rhymes 'Here we go round the Mulberry Bush', 'Down in the jungle', '3 Little Speckled Frogs' and 'Sleeping Monsters'. Please enjoy singing 'Here we go round the Mulberry Bush' together with your child at home!

We read the book 'Monster Clothes', by Daisy Hirst and the children learnt that monsters are not real (they only exist in stories) and that some monsters are silly and funny, like the ones in our story. We found out that monsters have body parts, just like us, but theirs are bigger/smaller/longer/spikier, etc. The monsters in our book even like wearing clothes, just like us, but sometimes they wear really silly things like cars, leaves and even a tomato! The children learnt lots of different clothing names and talked about what they were wearing on different days, using the stem sentence, "I'm wearing...". We practised dressing some big body templates together, in real children's clothes, and then, in stay & play on Friday, the children worked with their parents to dress their own monsters, that they had painted during the week. Zayan said "My monster is wearing everything!", and Ihram said "My monster likes to wear a dinosaur t-shirt".

In Maths, we learnt about the difference between numbers 1 & 2. The children looked at a range of different objects and then talked together about which things had only one and which had two. We looked at our sea shells and talked about the different types, and then we drew around them to see what shapes we could make. Humayra realised she could make a face with 2 eyes with her sea shells!



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## SEPTEMBER

Monday 30th

**Tuition:** Selected Year 6 pupils start Action Tuition today from 3.15pm – 4.30pm  
**Event:** Scholastic Travelling Book Fair after school from 3.20pm – 4pm

## OCTOBER

Tuesday 1st

**Event:** Scholastic Travelling Book Fair after school from 3.20pm – 4pm  
**Tuition:** Selected Year 5 pupils have Richard Reeves Tuition from 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Wednesday 2nd

**Event:** Last day of Scholastic Travelling Book Fair after school from 3.20pm  
**Tuition:** Selected Year 5 pupils have Action Tuition today from 3.15pm – 4.30pm  
**Trip:** 1 Jade visit The Canal Museum from 10am – 2pm  
**Trip:** Selected pupils from Years 3 & 4 attend Benchball competition at Talacre Sport Centre from 3pm – 6.15pm  
**Event:** Garden Classroom for Year 1

Thursday 3rd

**Event:** Reception Phonics Workshop for parents 9am – 9.45am  
**Trip:** 1 Ruby visit The Canal Museum from 10am – 2pm  
**Tuition:** Selected Year 6 pupils have Richard Reeves Tuition today from 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Friday 4th

**Trip:** Year 3 visit The Chiltern Open Air Museum from 8.30am – 4pm

Monday 7th

**Tuition:** Selected Year 6 pupils – Action Tuition today from 3.15pm – 4.30pm

Tuesday 8th

**Tuition:** Selected Year 5 pupils have Richard Reeves Tuition from 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Wednesday 9th

**Trip:** Year 6 visit The British Museum from 10am – 12pm  
**Event:** Garden Classroom for Year 1  
**Trip:** Selected pupils from Years 3 & 4 attend Benchball competition at Talacre Sport Centre from 3pm – 6.15pm

Thursday 10th

**Event:** Garden Classroom for Year 3 begins today  
**Tuition:** Selected Year 6 pupils have Richard Reeves Tuition today from 3.15pm – 4.15pm

# Attendance & Punctuality



Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rec: Jet	91	91	90	83			
1 Jade	93	92	93	91			
1 Ruby	95	100	96	98			
2 Amber	86	95	94	91			
2 Opal	88	95	100	98			
3 Garnet	98	96	98	98			
3 Pearl	91	95	97	97			
4 Emerald	96	98	95	99			
4 Onyx	94	94	91	97			
5 Amethyst	99	98	99	97			
6 Sapphire	95	96	95	99			
Total	94	95	95	95			
Camden							

Well done to 1 Ruby, 2 Opal, 3 Garnet, 3 Pearl, 4 Emerald, 4 Onyx, 5 Amethyst and 6 Sapphire for attaining the target of **96%** attendance this week.

## Punctuality

This week **39** of sessions in the registers were marked as 'L' (Late).

Pupils should be in their line at **8.40am**, ready to go up to class and be marked into the register at 8.45am when school begins.

## Exceptional Leave:

Parents are reminded not to book holidays during school term time. If there is an emergency and you need exceptional leave, please complete a form from the school office before booking your tickets.

## Reporting Absences

Parents should report any absences to the school office by calling 02078374590 before 9.30am.

Please do not leave messages on the answering machine. A member of staff may call you again to discuss the absence.

Please do not send emails to the admin inbox.

**Every School Day Counts**

# Key Attendance & Punctuality updates

## Morning Arrival Procedures:

- **In line by 8:40am:** We ask that all pupils are lined up by 8:40am.
- **School Day begins at 8:45am:** Our teachers will take pupils up to their classroom to begin registration.

## Register Closing Times:

- Teachers will close their registers at **8:55am**.
- **Late Marking:** Between 8:55am and 9:14am, your child will receive an 'L' in the attendance register.
- From **9am**, any pupils arriving to school after this time must sign their child in on the screen in the office area.
- **After 9:15am:** If your child arrives after 9:15am they will be marked as 'U' in the register this is an unauthorised absence.

### "We are only a few minutes late" – Does it matter?

Being late for school reduces learning time and does not prepare your child with good daily habits.

- Arrival 5 minutes late every day = 3 days of learning missed each year
- Arrival 15 minutes late every day = 10 days or 2 weeks of learning each year.

### How you can help your child to have excellent attendance in school

- Always inform the school if your child is absent.
- Encourage your child to attend regularly.
- Arrange medical or dental appointments outside of school hours when possible.
- Establish good morning and bedtime routines.
- Be on time, so they start the day right.
- Take absence seriously.
- Value and acknowledge achievements in school.
- Take family holidays, visit family outside of term time.

Attendance Percentage	Number of days missed	Number of lessons missed
100%	0 days	0
99%	2 days	18 lessons missed
97%	6 days (more than a week!)	54 lessons missed
95%	9 days	81 lessons missed
94%	11 days (more than 2 weeks!)	99 lessons missed
93%	13 days	117 lessons missed
92%	15 days (3 full weeks!)	135 lessons missed
91%	17 days	153 lessons missed
90%	18 days	144 lessons missed
85%	28 days (over 4 weeks!)	252 lessons missed

be in school . . .



### Could I be fined if my child misses school?

We will always support to help you improve your child's attendance first, but if this isn't effective or the absence is for unauthorised term time holiday, parents may face paying a fine.

The national rules, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons, this includes, holiday during term time, persistent absence from school and persistent lateness.

Parents who take less than 5 days of unauthorised holiday during term time will be invited to Camden Council for a Local Authority Meeting (LAM).

**Please note:** Headteachers are no longer able to approve holidays during term time.

### How much are penalty fines?

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80** if paid within **21 days**, or **£160** if paid within **28 days**, per parent, per child.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of **£160** per parent, per child, the charge will not be reduced.

Fines per parent will be capped to **two fines within any three-year period**. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

# Community Notice



## Citizens Advice Camden

### Financial Wellbeing & Energy Support for Parents/Carers at Argyle Primary School

Join the interactive workshop and learn about:

Budgeting

Energy saving tips

Credit & Borrowing

Grants and discounts

Priority & Non-Priority Bills

Smart meters

Economising to reduce costs

Your Energy Bills and tariffs

Date: **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

Time: **9:30am**

Place: **STEAM Lab**

For more information: [sharmina.khanom@argyle.camden.sch.uk](mailto:sharmina.khanom@argyle.camden.sch.uk)



ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS  
OF OTHER LANGUAGES  
**ESOL**

**LEARN ENGLISH FAST AT  
ARGYLE**  
EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY  
FROM 9AM -11AM

THIS CLASS IS OPEN TO ALL ADULT STUDENTS OF ALL LEVELS. YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ENGLISH FAST AT ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH OTHER STUDENTS.

WE WILL GO ON TRIPS TO LOCAL SITES AND LEARN EVERYDAY VOCABULARY.

WE WILL CONCENTRATE ON SPOKEN ENGLISH, ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION, READING AND WRITING.

WE WILL COVER WHAT STUDENTS WANT TO LEARN!

Come and see Belinda in the Family Learning Centre  
at Argyle Primary School to register



BELINDA DRAKE IS A LECTURER EMPLOYED BY WESTMINSTER KINGSDOWN COLLEGE





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