



NEWSLETTER



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move towards the end of the Autumn term, I have been working with SLT and governors and thinking about the extent to which we have made progress with the targets we set ourselves for this year. Parental feedback is always an important part of this and I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to those of you who took the time to complete our parent questionnaire. I was delighted with the levels of satisfaction reported and encouraged that so many of you are recognising the impact of our work upon your children's attainment and wellbeing. One thing I have really noticed this term is the excellent parental attendance at all school events involving children. I know that this motivates children and teachers. In terms of 'even better if's', I have noted the request from a couple of parents to feel better informed about the detail of what pupils are learning - particularly in maths and will be thinking about how we can better support parents to support in maths from the start of the Spring Term.

J. Wade
Head Teacher

YEAR 6 - CAMDEN TAKEOVER CHALLENGE 2024

Last Friday afternoon, some of our talented Year 6 pupils represented Argyle Primary School at the Camden Takeover Challenge 2024, held in the prestigious Council Chamber at Camden Town Hall. The event brought together primary and secondary pupils from eight Camden schools to explore key issues affecting young people today.

Our pupils captivated the audience with their presentation on "Social Media Addiction"—a thought-provoking topic that highlighted the challenges of growing up in a digital age and offered practical advice on avoiding becoming an "iPad kid." Their hard work and insightful ideas earned high praise from an impressive panel of attendees, including Cllr Marcus Boyland (Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families), Andy George (Director of Learning, Camden Learning), Vikram Hansrani (Director of Education Commissioning and Inclusion, Camden Council), and the Mayor of Camden, Cllr Samata Khatoun.

The Mayor and Camden councillors were so impressed with our pupils' efforts that they presented them with personalised gifts and a certificate of achievement from the Mayor herself.

The Takeover Challenge 2024 encouraged young people to use their voices to address important topics. This year's presentations covered a wide range of issues, including the importance of clean air in schools, mental health, school attendance, and, of course, the impact of social media.

Congratulations to our Year 6 team for representing Argyle Primary School with such distinction and making us all incredibly proud!



Our Spectacular SCIENCE Show!

On Tuesday, children from years 1 to 6 along with their parents were treated to a science show from the Royal Institution entitled Explosive Food! Ted our presenter, used some interesting props to look into how we experience foods and how our body uses them.

This included

- ✓ Testing why not all of us like Brussel Sprouts. There are certain chemicals in them that are bitter, but not all of us can taste. Among the year 5 and 6 children, three out of four found the swatches really bitter.
- ✓ Examining how our body burns our food to turn it into energy, which can be measured in calories. Ted first thrilled everyone by burning a foamy mixture on his hand. He then used a funnel of flour to show the energy that we get from bread. When he set fire to it, it burned really quickly.
- ✓ We looked at catalysts, or enzymes found in our saliva that can speed up a reaction when breaking down food. The children were excited to see that the Mentos and Coke experiment would be used to model that.
- ✓ Finally, Ted modelled the journey of our food through the digestive system. This was accompanied by film taken using an oscilloscope that travelled through Ted's

Thank you to Ted and all of the Royal Institution for a fantastic day. The teachers also their training after school.



Year 3

We are thrilled to share that Year 3 has just completed their Seed to Supper program in the school garden! Over the past six weeks, the children have embraced the joys of gardening and sustainable food practices with tremendous enthusiasm.

Here's what they've been up to:

- **Planting and Growing:** The children planted herbs, bulbs, seeds, and even learned how to grow from food waste cuttings, with spring onions flourishing in the classroom.
- **Harvesting and Eating:** They tasted mint tea made from their own herbs, enjoyed lettuce they had grown, and made vegetable soup using potatoes, garlic, and onions from the garden. They even churned their own butter to accompany the soup!
- **Creative Keepsakes:** Each child created a printed square of garden foliage to take home as a memento of their time in the garden.
- **Wildlife Care:** They made bird feed to fill the feeders, supporting local wildlife during the colder months.
- **Sustainability Lessons:** Alongside weeding and composting, the children learned about the importance of protecting soil through winter.

Through this immersive experience, the children have blossomed into knowledgeable and confident young gardeners. They can now identify weeds from plants and are well-versed in the root systems of alliums!

Highlights from the Children:

One child shared that they were initially scared of the garden but now feel confident and excited about it. Another mentioned they didn't want to get dirty at first but now love the experience. Many were amazed at how delicious and simple their homemade food was!

Year 3 also wanted to say a belated THANK YOU to the AstraZeneca volunteers who did an amazing job of tidying our pond and wildlife area of a couple of weeks ago.

THANK YOU!



Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been practicing for our 'Meaning of Christmas' performance and making props and decorations for the stage. We have had so much fun!

In Maths, we have been learning to add and subtract two-digit numbers from two-digit numbers, for example, $24 + 35$ and $48 - 23$. We have played games, used base ten and shown our working out in books - all of this has helped the children to grasp these tricky concepts.

In English, Year 2 have been learning to write our dragon story using expanded noun phrases and similes. One child wrote 'gold, dangerous talons like knives'. Wow!

In History we have been learning why knights would have had shields with designs on them and then the children got to design their own coat of arms.



YEAR 1

This week, Year 1 Jade enjoyed their final session of The Garden Classroom for the term, and what a fantastic journey it has been! The children embraced the joys of nature by planting bulbs, investigating the worms they discovered, and crafting beautiful ivy crowns.

The children shared wonderful observations:

- **Ayaana:** "I found a mummy worm and a baby worm first and then the daddy worm."
- **Sulaiman:** "Rain makes mud and when you stamp, all the worms come up to say hello."
- **Yusra:** "The hot chocolate is warming my heart."
- **Leah:** "We don't know the colour of the flower growing from the bulb."

In science, Year 1 explored different materials such as wood, plastic, and metal, discussing their properties and purposes. Ask your child why glass is great for windows (Hint: It's transparent!).



A Spotlight on Creativity!

Well done to Maryam, who shared the amazing castle, she created for her Autumn 2 project, with her class. She proudly explained, "I made a castle. It has towers and turrets. I added flags and battlements. Did you know that knights used to hide behind the battlements and then shoot arrows at their enemies?"

If your child hasn't had the chance to complete their Autumn 2 home learning project yet, there's still plenty of time! With a few weeks left of term, it's a great opportunity to get creative and bring their ideas to life. We can't wait to see their wonderful work!





RECEPTION



The children in Reception have been learning about traditional tales. Over the last few weeks, they have learnt about Goldilocks, The Three Bears and The Three Little Pigs. This week, the children moved on to learning about The Three Billy Goats Gruff. After listening to the story, the children began to learn a condensed version from memory, using a story map and actions to help them. Through learning a range of traditional tales, the children are able to internalise story telling language such as 'once upon a time', which then helps them when they are telling or writing their own stories. As part of their mathematical development, the children have been practising their one-to-one correspondence and ensuring that they are counting a number of objects accurately. They have also been learning about the mathematical term 'equal.'

During their guided sessions with the teacher, the children played a game involving a dice and counters. This helped the children to recognise amounts and then move their counters the correct amount of spaces. This also supported the children with developing resilience when they lost and helped them to develop their turn-taking skills.



NURSERY



This week in nursery we continued with our topic of **heroes** by learning about the job of dentists. We talked about what happens when we go to the dentist and found out how important our teeth are, by reading 'The Tooth Book', by Theo LeSieg. We learnt that we use our teeth not only for eating, but they are also important for smiling and talking too. We also learnt how we should look after our teeth - we need to brush them twice a day and we also need to make sure we don't eat too many sweets (because too many sweets will still rot our teeth, even if we are brushing them). We had a special visitor, Malika from Reception (who used to be a dentist previously), she told us what kind of foods we should be eating, to make sure we have healthy teeth (and bodies too). At the end of the week we did a lesson on how to brush our teeth correctly, and we learnt that the best time to brush our teeth is first thing in the morning and last thing at night. The children all got their own toothbrush to take home!

Parent tip: Please make sure that you help your children to brush their teeth thoroughly, twice a day. It is really important that you help them to develop healthy eating habits by making sure they know what healthy food is, and that they are eating this at their main mealtimes. Do not give sweet foods for breakfast or lunch (a sweet treat occasionally for dessert at dinner time is fine).

This week in Phonics the children learnt about the 't' sound and words beginning with 't', such as, tiger, teddy, toast, tap, toilet, table and tv. As ever, when it came to having a go at writing the letter 't', the children were truly amazing! We also started learning about words that rhyme this week and we've been practising matching up rhyming pairs of objects, like rock/sock, and cat/hat. On Friday in stay & play, the children and their parents got the chance to have a go at this together by making their own rhyming pair posters.

In Maths this week we learnt about the number 4 and we continued with shapes by learning about triangles. We learnt about the properties of triangles - that they have 3 corners and 3 sides, and the children had a go at drawing their own triangles. Triangles are difficult shapes to draw! The children were doggedly determined and tried so hard. Qasim said: "A nose is like a triangle", Humayra said of her triangle, "It looks like a tent".



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

Tuesday 3rd

Trip: 4 Emerald visit The British Museum from 9.15am – 12.15pm
Trip: 1 Jade visit The Science Museum from 10.30am – 3pm
Trip: Selected pupils from Year 6 attend Football Tournament at Somers Town Sports Centre from 3.15pm – 6.15pm

Wednesday 4th

Event: Reception Maths workshop from 9am – .45am parents invited

Thursday 5th

Trip: 4 Emerald visit The British Museum from 9.15am – 12.15pm

Monday 9th

Trip: Year 2 singing at Euston for Mayors charity from 9.30am – 11.30am

Tuesday 10th

Trip: Selected pupils from Year 6 attend Football Tournament at Somers Town Sports Centre from 3.15pm – 6.15pm

Wednesday 11th

Trip: Selected pupils from Year 6 attend Dodgeball Tournament at Talacre Sports Centre from 3.15pm – 6.15pm

Thursday 12th

Event: Special Storytime at 2.30pm – Parents invited

Friday 13th

Trip: Year 6 visit the Camden Archives from 10am – 12.30pm

Tuesday 17th

Trip: 4 Onyx visit Camden Market from 1pm – 3pm
Trip: Selected pupils from Year 6 attend Football Tournament at Somers Town Sports Centre from 3.15pm – 5.15pm

Wednesday 18th

Event: Year 2 present The Meaning of Christmas Assembly from 10am – Parents invited
Event: Christmas lunch for pupils

Thursday 19th

Event: Class Christmas Parties from 1pm – 3pm

Friday 20th

School closes at 1.45pm

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 KINGSWAY COLLEGE



SPECIAL COFFEE MORNING

Join Us for a Special Session!
Supporting Your Child's Behaviour
Presented by the Mentally Healthy Schools Team from
CAMHS



Date: Friday 6th December



Time: 9:00am



Location: Family Learning Centre

✔ Learn valuable tips and strategies to support your child's emotional well-being and behaviour at home and school.



Enjoy a cup of coffee and connect with other parents in a relaxed environment.

We look forward to seeing you there!
For more information, please contact Sharmina.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY & TERM DATES 2024 - 2025



Autumn Term 2024 (73 days)

Autumn 1: Monday 2nd September 2024 - 25th October 2024 (38 days)

Pupils return to school on **Wednesday 4th September 2024**

Half Term: Monday 28th October 2024 - Friday 1st November 2024

Autumn 2: Monday 4th November 2024 - Friday 20th December 2024 (35 days)

Christmas Holidays: Monday 23rd December 2024 - Friday 3rd January 2025

Spring Term 2025 (58 days)

Spring 1: Monday 6th January 2025 - Friday 14th February 2025 (29 days)

Pupils return to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**

Half Term: Monday 17th February 2025 - Friday 21st February 2025

Spring 2: Monday 24th February 2025 - Friday 4th April 2025 (29 days)

Easter Holidays: Monday 7th April 2025 - Monday 21st April 2025

Summer Term 2025 (59 days)

Summer 1: Tuesday 22nd April 2025 - Friday 23rd May 2025 (23 days)

Pupils return to school on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025**

Half Term: Monday 26th May 2025 - Friday 30th May 2025

Summer 2: Monday 2nd June 2025 - Tuesday 22nd July 2025 (36 days)

Inset Days

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Monday 6th January 2025
- 31st March 2025
- Monday 9th June 2025

Bank Holidays

- Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December 2024
- Boxing Day Thursday 26th December 2024
- New Years Day Wednesday 1st January 2025
- Good Friday Friday 18th April 2025
- Easter Monday Monday 21st April 2025
- May Day Monday 5th May 2025
- Spring Bank Holiday Monday 26th May 2025