



# NEWSLETTER



## HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

**Argyle is a Champions school!**

We have been officially recognised as a Champion School By Little Wandle Letters and Sounds - the country's fastest growing DFE recognised SSP (Systematic Synthetic Phonics) programme. There are just 30 Champion Schools nationally. Our recognition is important to us because it quality assures our work and because we lead training in the teaching of phonics and reading for pleasure across the borough as the lead school for 'Every Child A reader by 7'.

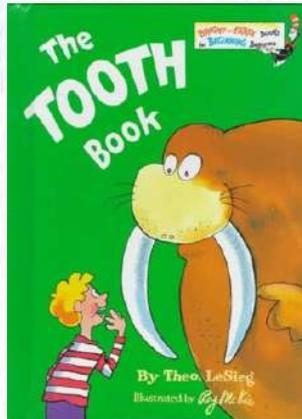
On Wednesday we held our first 'Little Wandle Live' - an event where up to 20 practitioners from other schools saw our teaching in action and learnt all about how we overcome barriers to get so many of our children reading with a good level of understanding and fluency, from a young age. Our teaching staff and our children were phenomenal! I was very proud of them.

*J. Wade*  
Head Teacher



# Nursery

This week in Nursery we continued our 'Heroes' topic by learning about dentists. After reading *The Tooth Book* by Theo LeSieg, we talked about why our teeth are important—not just for eating, but for smiling and talking too. We learnt how to look after our teeth by brushing twice a day and avoiding too many sweets.



We also had a special visitor, Malika from Reception (who used to be a dentist), who taught us about healthy foods that help keep our teeth and bodies strong. Later in the week, the children practised brushing correctly and found out that the best times to brush are in the morning and before bed.

**Parent tip:** Please support your child by helping them brush thoroughly twice a day and encouraging healthy eating. Avoid sweet foods at breakfast and lunch; an occasional dessert after dinner is fine.

In Phonics the children learnt the 't' sound and thought of words such as tiger, teddy, toast and tap. They did brilliantly with writing the letter 't'. We also started looking at rhyming words and practised matching pairs like rock/sock and cat/hat. At Stay & Play, children and parents enjoyed making their own rhyming pair posters.

In Maths we explored the number 4 and learnt about triangles. The children discovered that triangles have 3 sides and 3 corners, and worked hard to draw their own—it's a tricky shape, but they were wonderfully determined!

Thank you to the Dental Health nurses who lead the 'Fluoride Varnish Programme' at our school. They have kindly given all the children a new toothbrush and their own tube of toothpaste.



# RECEPTION

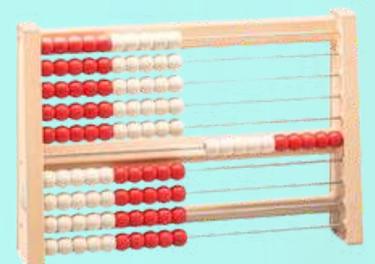
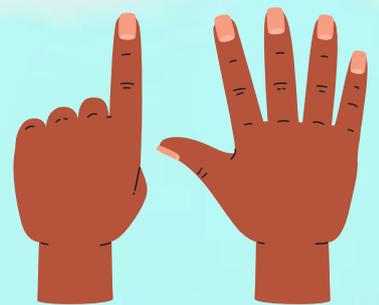
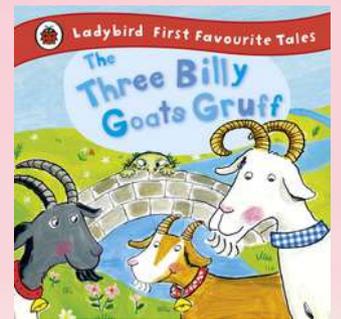


This week our topic story has been *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. The children loved exploring different versions of the tale and acting out the characters with great expression and enthusiasm.

In Music, we used a range of instruments to create the famous “trip-trap” sounds as the goats crossed the bridge.

During Drawing Club, the children sketched their own trolls and used their fantastic handwriting to write the code words “bad man” to wake him up! They then drew the bridge and wrote the code words “on top” to make different characters cross over it.

In Maths, the children have been learning all about the number 6 and how to represent it as 5 and 1 more using their fingers. We also explored this on our bead-frames (rekenreks). Working with talk partners, the children challenged one another to work out different numbers being shown on the beads. Afterwards, some of the children confidently shared their brilliant maths thinking with the whole class:



Well done to all the children for another week of fantastic learning!

**Izyiac said,** “I made 4 and Micha counted it and he said 4.”

**Ibrahim explained,** “I made 9 and it was 5 and 4.”

**Aimah added,** “I know it is 9 because 1 more bead would be 10.”

**Nihal said,** “I made 9 for Elaura.”

# YEAR 1

**Marcus** – "There are more ways to make 7 than other numbers:  $1+6$ ,  $2+5$ ,  $3+4$ ..."

**Osman** – "6 is a winner too because  $1+5$ ,  $2+4$  and  $3+3$  make 6."

**Safa** – "2 and 12 can only be made one way –  $1+1$  and  $6+6$ ."



## Wheels and Axles

To launch our DT unit, children explored how wheels and axles help objects move. Working in pairs, they experimented with wheels, axles and axle holders to create their very first moving vehicles.

Curiosity is high for what we'll design next!



**Nuh** – "I found a feather and it was pointy and soft."

**Muna** – "The tin foil cups are made of metal but it crashes in my hand."



## Maths Games

This week, Year 1 enjoyed practising their addition and subtraction through lively dice games.

In our first game, The Race Track, children rolled two dice, added the totals and marked them on the board. Many pairs quickly discovered that 7 is the most common total.

In the second game, children worked backwards, using the number rolled to find a matching number sentence.

**Afsan** – "I rolled 2 and put my counter on  $5-3$  because the answer is 2."

**Maryam** – "I put my counter on  $3+2$  when I rolled 5."

Both games sparked brilliant teamwork, discussion and number talk. Ask a Year 1 child to teach you – they'd love to show you how to play!

**Mohamed** – "If you stick the axle to the card, the wheels don't work."

**Arifah** – "The axle holder is the black card holding the straw."

## Material Hunt

Our science work continued outdoors with a material hunt around the school grounds. Children found objects made from wood, metal, plastic, fabric and glass, describing their properties and discussing why each material is used.

Hands-on learning at its best!



## Garden Classroom Adventures

Even in the freezing cold, our garden classroom was full of magic. The children discovered a tiny mushroom village hidden under the leaves, watched beeswax melt gently over the fire, and warmed up with toasted marshmallows.

**Yahyaa** – "Yummy pink marshmallow!"

**Ahlam** – "Mmm, it is hot."

A cosy and memorable outdoor session for everyone!

# YEAR 2

In PE, the children are continuing to develop their core strength, balance, and focus through yoga. They have been imagining themselves on safari, trying out a variety of poses inspired by the animals they "met" along the way. Their strong tree poses have been particularly impressive!



This week, the children began their new Maths unit on shape, focusing on counting the vertices and sides of different polygons. They rose to the challenge of drawing 2-D shapes with real precision, carefully using their rulers to create accurate lines and angles—well done, Year 2!



**We are also in full swing with rehearsals for our Nativity, which will be performed in the final week of term. A letter was sent home last week with details of your child's role and the clothes they will need to wear beneath their costume. Please ensure that all clothes are sent into school by Friday 5th December.**

To launch our new English unit on The Jolly Postman, the children enjoyed an exciting visit to Fairy Tale Land. They "posted" letters to familiar fairy-tale characters and joined in with a variety of games that helped them revisit stories they have learned in previous years. It was a magical start to our new topic!



## DO YOU HAVE A CHILD 5 AND UNDER?



**MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP TO  
CAMDEN'S IMAGINATION  
LIBRARY**

[www.camden.gov.uk/imagination-library](http://www.camden.gov.uk/imagination-library)

# YEAR 4

Year 4 were lucky enough to visit Neasden Temple this Tuesday! As part of our R.E. learning about Hinduism, the children have been exploring how Hindu people pray and worship. During our visit, we discovered how dedicated volunteers helped to build and craft this beautiful mandir, we observed a prayer taking place, and we were excited to recognise many of the Murtis (statues of deities) that we've been learning about in class.



“  
**Amira** - "The ceiling is so beautiful!"  
”

“  
**Hassan** - "I can't believe the number zero was created in India!"  
”

“  
**Yusra** - "I've found out that the mandir only took 3 years to make and was finished in 1995."  
”

# Year 5

Year 5 had another fantastic week! On Thursday, they continued working on their exciting DT project with ShiftED at Holborn Library, showing great teamwork and creativity. They also spent time making Christmas decorations to help brighten up the school halls next week!



# Reading for Pleasure

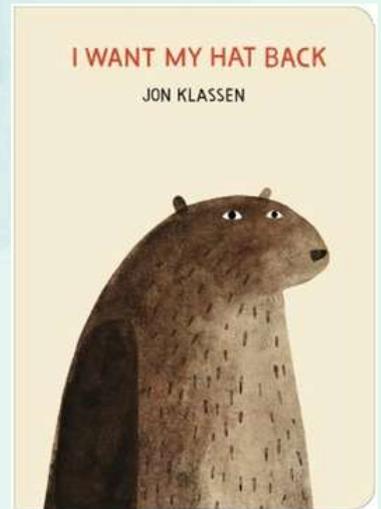
## Teacher Book Recommendations



Ms Robinson

I highly recommend ***I Want My Hat Back*** —a delightfully sly picture book. On the surface, it seems simple: short sentences, muted colors, and a straightforward plot about a bear searching for his lost hat. Yet beneath this calm exterior lies a playful sense of humor and a clever use of repetition and pacing that keeps young readers engaged.

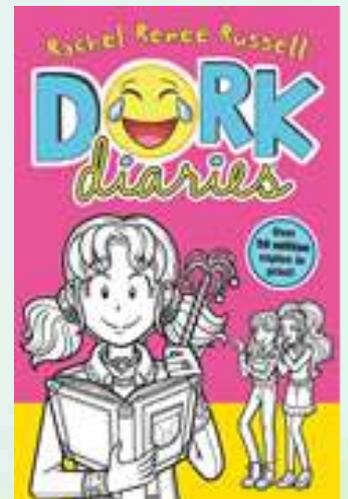
The story's turning point, when the bear finally realizes the truth, is both surprising and satisfying—especially for children who enjoy spotting clues before the characters do. Klassen's illustrations, while deceptively simple, are incredibly expressive, perfectly complementing the dry, understated humor of the text. Adults can appreciate the subtle irony, while children are sure to enjoy the book's amusing ending.

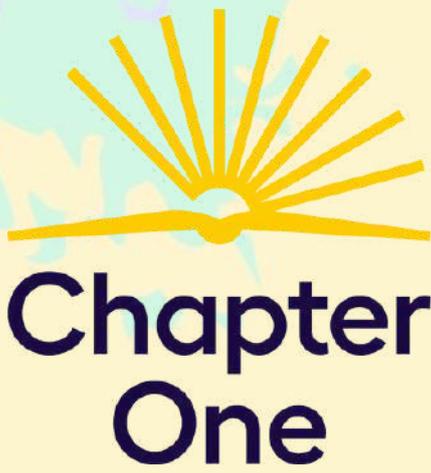


Ms Barrett

I'm recommending ***Dork Diaries*** by Rachel Renee Russell because I've been reading it during our Reading for Pleasure time, and it's such a fun and engaging book! My classmate Nouran suggested it to me, and I'm so glad she did. It's a diary-style story about Nikki Maxwell trying to survive middle school with humour, heart, and lots of doodles.

If you want a book that makes you laugh, keeps you curious, and feels like a friend sharing their secrets, this is definitely one to pick up!





# Chapter One

This month some of the children had the opportunity to get to know a little better their online reading volunteers from the literacy charity Chapter One.

Chapter One's corporate volunteers are paired with selected pupils, for the whole school year, to help boost the children's reading confidence and enjoyment. The reading sessions are all online via the special Chapter One reading platform which focuses on developing children's understanding of letters and sounds, their confidence and - most importantly - a love of reading.



During the sessions, the child and the volunteer read stories and play word games via a laptop and voice connection - they are unable to see each other. The children therefore loved putting a face to their online reading volunteer's voice and exchanged with them their favourite books, riddles and jokes!

Chapter One also offers a free online library of books for everyone to enjoy. Find out more on their website: [chapterone.org](http://chapterone.org)



Learn English fast and for free at Argyle Primary School



## LEARN ENGLISH AT ARGYLE

Free classes every Monday and Wednesday 9:30AM - 11:30AM



This class is open to all adult students of all levels. You will learn English fast with other students. Pre-school children are welcome but it is the responsibility of the parent to care for them so they do not interrupt class. We will go on trips to local sites and learn everyday vocabulary. We will work on:

- Spoken English
- Reading
- English pronunciation
- Writing

We will study what you want to learn!

Visit Belinda in the Family Learning Centre (FLC) to register. Belinda Drake is an ESOL Lecturer at Capital City College.

Capital City College | You can also get in touch via e-mail: [belinda.drake@capitalccg.ac.uk](mailto:belinda.drake@capitalccg.ac.uk) | Argyle Primary School | Tonbridge Street, London W1H 9EG

## Family Learning: Family First Aid Awareness



**First Aid Workshop**  
with refreshments  
**Monday 8th December**

9:00am (after school drop off) to 10:30am  
in the STEAM lab at Argyle.

**Do you have the knowledge to recognise and respond correctly to different medical situations to support your family?**

If you are interested in attending the taster session, Speak to Sophia (Family Support Worker) or just come along.

Everyone is welcome.



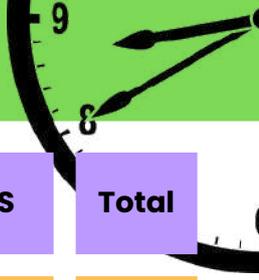
**Make science fun with our interactive website for children.**

Discover experiments, activities and quizzes that spark wonder about the world and how it works.

Jump inside our labs and start exploring.

[kids.crick.ac.uk](http://kids.crick.ac.uk)

# Attendance & Punctuality



Class	1J	2A	2O	3P	4E	4O	5A	5Q	6S	Total
Week 9	90%	97%	92%	94%	94%	90%	99%	97%	91%	95%
Week 10	93%	96%	100%	94%	98%	94%	96%	99%	91%	95%
Week 11	96%	97%	93%	95%	93%	97%	99%	93%	94%	91%
Week 12	98%	94%	99%	93%	96%	92%	93%	98%	97%	96%

Congratulations to **1 Jade, 2 Opal, 4 Emerald, 5 Quartz & 6 Sapphire** for achieving the target of 96% attendance this week.

## 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.

## 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. We would like to remind parents that taking holidays less than 5 days can still be referred for a penalty notice. You may not be issued a Penalty Notice but you will be invited to a Legal Authority Meeting with Camden's Attendance and Children Out of School Team in Camden offices.

**Every School Day Counts**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## DECEMBER

Monday 1st	ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 6 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Catch up Booster - selected children from years 1 to 4 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm (year 1 finish @ 4pm)
Tuesday 2nd	Year 5 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Cooking Club, years 1, 2 & 3 Group 2 - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Selected children from Yrs 5&6 to a football tournament at Somers Town - 3pm to 6.05pm
Wednesday 3rd	ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 5 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Football Club, years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Selected children from Yrs 3&4 to a benchball competition at Talacre - 3pm to 6.30pm
Thursday 4th	5 Quartz Class Assembly - Parents invited - 8.45am to 9.15am Year 5 to Holborn Library for DT workshop - 9.30am to 12pm Year 6 swimming - 11am to 12pm Nursery to Foundling Museum - 1pm to 3pm Year 6 to CLC - 1pm to 3pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Cooking Club, years 4, 5 & 6 group 2 - 3.13pm to 4.30pm
Friday 5th	5 Quartz to CLC - 9.30am to 12.30pm Football Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
Monday 8th	Year 6 to British Library - 9.45am to 12.30pm Year 2 to sing at Euston Station - 1.15pm to 2.55pm ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 6 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Catch up Booster - selected children from years 1 to 4 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm (year 1 finish @ 4pm)