



NEWSLETTER



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

As a Camden headteacher, I often attend professional development sessions that discuss key issues in education. A recent session set out the continued challenges faced in tackling the achievement gap for disadvantaged pupils, who, nationally, are now almost 19 months behind their peers by GCSE. Absence from school is a major driver – if disadvantaged pupils had the same attendance as others, the gap at 16 would shrink by over four months. As a primary school, we are all too aware of disadvantage gaps – from the earliest days when children arrive in school and in key outcomes at KS2. At Argyle, we do everything in our power to overcome challenges. We have deliberately designed an exciting curriculum that gives all children broad opportunities. We have designed learning to be sequential and to actively plug gaps.

We do what we know makes a difference.

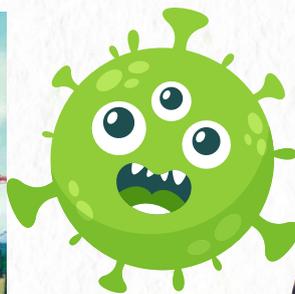
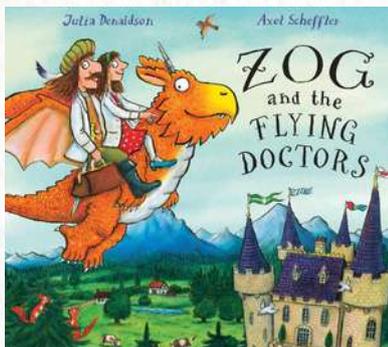
There are two more weeks of learning this term. Please ensure that your child attends. Please ensure that poor attendance is not a factor in your child missing out.

J. Wade
Head Teacher

Nursery

This week in Nursery, we continued our heroes topic by learning about the important job of doctors. We read *Zog and the Flying Doctors* and discussed what happens when we feel ill and who helps us get better. The children learned about germs and why washing our hands properly matters—germs can hide even when our hands look clean! We also explored doctor vocabulary, including medicines like tablets, plasters and syrup, and tools such as thermometers and stethoscopes. The children loved dressing up as doctors and treating each other and the nursery dolls.

I



On Thursday, we had a very exciting trip to the Foundling Museum. During an art workshop with visual artist Jess Heritage, the children went on a museum tour and looked closely at the tokens mothers once left with their children. We talked about how special objects can help us remember people or feel connected to them. The children then created their own clay tokens and decorated them with embellishments—these will remind them of their connection to the museum.

Thank you to all my parents that attended the trip even in the pouring rain! You were stars!

In Phonics, we focused on the i sound and explored words such as Ihram, Iqra, igloo, iguana, ill and invitation.

The children had great fun 'writing' their own invitations, placing them in envelopes and posting them into our nursery post-box. We also continued learning about rhyme by matching rhyming pairs.

During Stay and Play on Friday, the children enjoyed making rhyme-time bags and singing nursery rhymes together.



RECEPTION



This week we ran our maths workshops for Reception children and their families. We talked about the importance of working together to help children develop strong basic number-fluency skills, so they can confidently apply them to more complex maths problems. The children are learning these skills in school, but there's lots that families can do at home too. As we approach the end of the Autumn term, you can support your child by making sure they are confident and ready for Spring term maths:

- Practise counting aloud to 10, and ideally to 20.
- Help your child recognise numerals 1-10 and put them in the correct order.
- Play dice games so they can instantly recognise the numbers 1-6 by spotting the pattern.

The children are also making excellent progress with their writing. This week they learnt how to segment and write three words at a time, and they practised every day!

We also had a brilliant garden classroom session: we made a fire and toasted marshmallows, played in the mud kitchen, created magic wands and decorated wooden tokens.



YEAR 1

Christmas Decorations

Over the past few weeks, the children have been busy creating a wonderful collection of festive decorations using handprints and sustainably sourced materials. They made vibrant green handprint Christmas trees, cheerful reindeer with newspaper faces and brown handprint antlers, and delicate white angel wings made from handprints. Using 3D shapes and recycled paper, they also printed their own colourful Christmas stockings.

Our nature-inspired autumn leaf landscapes turned festive with a sprinkle of glitter, and the children loved crafting their own little gonks from scrap paper. These activities not only encouraged creativity and fine motor skills but also supported our focus on eco-friendly, low-waste art.



Daisy – I made Rudolph the reindeer because he has a red nose



Aasiya – My angel is flying to Allah

Amaya – Our Christmas elf is holding a present and he is made up of different scrap paper from our classroom.

Zakariya – I used 4 green hand prints to make the Christmas tree

Christingles

Jade enjoyed a special festive activity this week as they created their very own Christingles. The children carefully assembled the traditional orange, candle, strawberry lace "red ribbon," and raisins and sweets, learning about the meaning behind each part and why Christingles are an important symbol of hope and light. They showed wonderful concentration and care as they worked, and were very proud to take home their finished creations. It was a lovely way to combine creativity with learning about this meaningful seasonal tradition.



Year 5



On Thursday, 5 Quartz shared their learning with families in our class assembly. We presented our six-week ShiftED project, creating a "Camtastic" automaton and explaining how it works. We also highlighted our Ancient Greece topic, from Aristotle's discoveries to our own underworld myths, and finished with an epic performance of Wait for Me from Hadestown.

Well done on a fantastic performance, 5 Quartz!



Adiyan's twirling tornado!



Arsema's beautiful bird!

On Thursday 5 Amethyst continued their DT projects. Have a look at the amazing sculptures they have produced!

5 Quartz has had a busy week, every day has brought new book reviews! We're really enjoying hearing about all your exciting book choices, so please keep them coming.

We also received two fantastic new projects: an ingenious maze from Ibrahim and an impressive Greek temple from Raheem.

Last Friday, we spent the afternoon with George Francis, a musical director and keyboard player who has worked on many West End shows, including Hadestown. He showed us how he conducts from onstage while playing the piano and shared behind-the-scenes footage of his view. George also spoke about building his career by learning on the job.

After a brilliant rendition of Wait for Me, he helped 5 Quartz create a special arrangement for our class assembly.

Thank you, George, for helping us shine!



Year 6

This week, our Year 6 pupils had an extraordinary experience taking part in a world-first live Zoom session with Ross Swan, broadcasting directly from Antarctica. It was inspiring to see the dedication of scientists working in one of the most extreme environments on Earth. Ross shared insights into daily life on the icy continent, the importance of protecting its fragile ecosystem, and the efforts to better understand its climate and wildlife. The session was both educational and motivating, reminding us all of the importance of caring for our planet.

The children shared some of their favourite moments:

Ibrahim: "We enjoyed taking part in a live stream from Antarctica for the first time in history."

Mahbuba: "We learned that they use the internet through a small device called Starlink."

Myra: "It's very interesting how Ross and his team can survive such cold temperatures."

Riyad: "It is important to leave Antarctica alone!"

A'isha: "The average temperature is -25°C."

Arsema: "It's daytime all the time in Antarctica now. Ross explained that they sleep in warm sleeping bags and use a sleeping mask."

Ijaaz: "My favourite part was seeing the landscape outside the tent. I've always wanted to see what Antarctica looked like live."



As a class, we discussed how we can help tackle climate change looking after our clothes and toys so we don't need to buy new ones, and choosing to walk or cycle instead of driving whenever possible.

Year 6 had a fantastic time at the CLC this week, taking part in an exciting ICT workshop. The children learned all about programming and had the opportunity to work with Micro:bits. They enjoyed creating simple programs, experimenting with code, and seeing their ideas come to life on the devices.

It was a fun, hands-on experience that helped build their confidence and skills in computing.

The children shared their thoughts about the workshop:



Dahlia: I enjoyed programming the Microbit to make a heart.

Zahara: I liked making music and writing my name.

Mahbuba: I liked that we explored different variables.

Adam: I enjoyed coding.

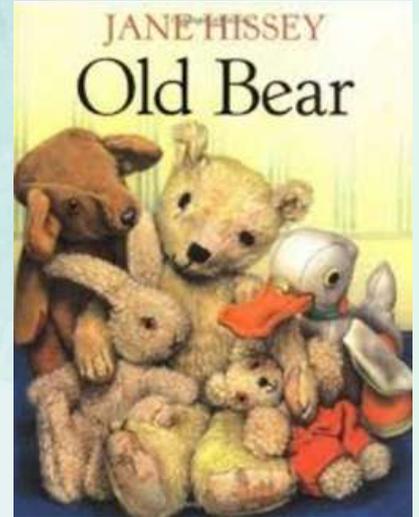
Reading for Pleasure

Teacher Book Recommendations



Rachel

I would highly recommend reading *Old Bear* by Jane Hissey. Long, long ago a dear old teddy bear was put in the attic for safekeeping. His old friend Bramwell Brown misses him and decides to bring Old Bear back home, but how? This story explores all of the exciting ways to reach the high attic door. Will a tower of bricks work? Does Old Bear ever return to his friends? This book is lovely story about friendship and being doggedly determined.

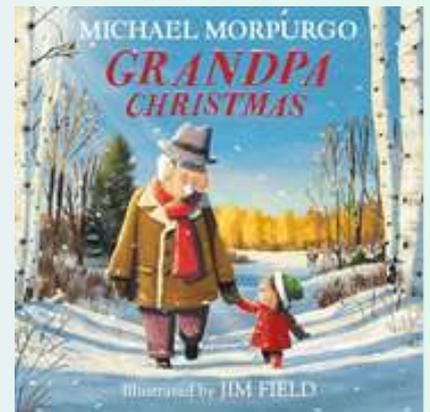


If you're looking for a magical and meaningful story to enjoy this season, *Grandpa Christmas* is a fantastic choice! In this beautifully illustrated book, a grandfather writes a special letter to his granddaughter, reminding her how important it is to take care of our world.

Children will love the warm, gentle message and the stunning pictures that bring the story to life. It's a short, touching read that encourages kindness, hope, and looking after nature.

Grandpa Christmas is perfect for young readers who enjoy stories full of heart and inspiration. A lovely book to share at home or in the classroom!

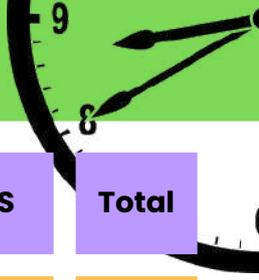
Enjoy!



Ms Quinn



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% |
| Week 13 | 97% | 97% | 98% | 93% | 90% | 87% | 95% | 98% | 96% | 94% |

Congratulations to **1 Jade, 2 Amber, 2 Opal, 5 Quartz and 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Monday 8th | First Aid for parents course in the Steam Lab - 9am to 10.30am 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) |
| Tuesday 9th | Year 4 to The British Museum - 8.45am to 12.30pm Year 5 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Selected children from Yrs 5&6 to a football tournament at Somers Town - 3pm to 6.05pm AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE NOW FINISHED |
| Wednesday 10th | ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 5 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE NOW FINISHED |
| Thursday 11th | Year 5 to Holborn Library for DT workshop - 9.30am to 12pm Year 6 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE NOW FINISHED |
| Friday 12th | 5A to the CLC - 9am to 1pm Year 2 to Jacksons Lane Art Centre AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE NOW FINISHED |
| Monday 15th | 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) |

Notices



CRICK KIDS

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






Winter Mini Challenge

Welcome to the Winter Mini Challenge - an online reading challenge you can join from 1 December 2025 to 20 February 2026!

Visit wintermini.org.uk or scan the QR code, follow the steps below and start reading!

- 1. Sign up**
Click 'join now' to create your account.
- 2. Read books**
Read 3 books or more! When you finish a book, add it to your profile and leave a review.
- 3. Earn digital rewards**
Unlock rewards including a new online badge and a certificate when you complete the Challenge!




Camden

FRIENDS OF ARGYLE WINTER BAKE SALE



FAMILY LEARNING CENTRE

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 11TH, 2025 FROM 3:00 PM

ANY CAKE PARTICIPATION IS WELCOME! (PLEASE DROP YOUR CAKES BY 1:00 PM AT THE OFFICE)

1 hot chocolate + 1 cookie £2.50



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

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