



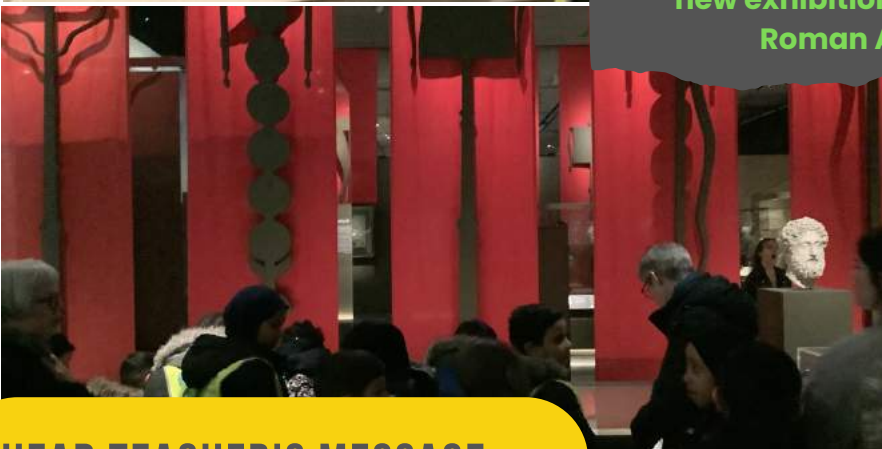
Argyle
Primary
School

NEWSLETTER

OUR VALUE FOR FEBRUARY IS KINDNESS



Year 4 view the British Museum
new exhibition 'Life in the
Roman Army'



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been back 5 days and so much has happened it feels like 3 weeks. On Monday we already had a class out meeting Malorie Blackman at The British Library and two classes at The British Museum. We've had dance workshops, a visit to a new gallery, football and athletics tournaments and a range of lessons and assessments. When we say that every school day matters we really mean it at Argyle. For this reason we thank every parent who has ensured that their child has been in school every day. Camden is on a mission to give Camden children the very best educational chances and for all children to make the best of this, excellent attendance is possible. This week our attendance is 93%.

We've never yet made the top 5 Camden schools for attendance. Could next week be the week that no child misses school?

Enjoy your weekend.

J. Wade

Head Teacher

YEAR 6

VISIT THE BRITISH LIBRARY

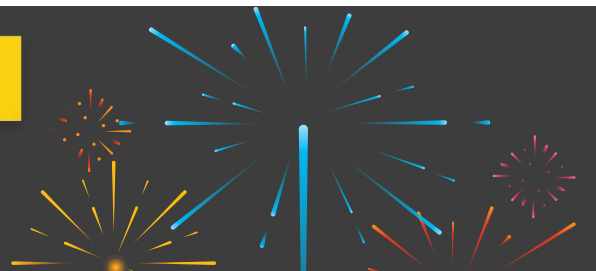
On Monday, Year 6 returned to the British Library to watch the author Malorie Blackman being interviewed by Dapo Adeola who illustrated her picture book, We're Going to Find the Monster!. Many might know him as the illustrator of the book, Look Up!

During the interview, Malorie answered questions which had been submitted by primary school children, including one from Argyle! She answered many of the questions in depth so we were able to find out more about the difficulties she faced getting published - she received over 70 rejection letters before a book was finally accepted. We also learnt that her father thought reading fiction was a waste of time but nothing stopped young Malorie from reading stories. She told us that she would take a packed lunch and spend the whole of a Saturday in the local library. She was, however, disappointed to find there was not one story she read which was about a young black girl like herself. The first book she read with a black protagonist was The Colour Purple (a book for adults) which she read when she was about 21. In Friday Book Club, one year 6 group has been reading her book Pig Heart Boy so it was thrilling when she revealed that her inspiration came from a newspaper story about organ transplants from animals. She mentioned that she loves all her books but is particularly fond of Hacker, which is another Year 6 Book Club novel. Near the end of the interview, she revealed that she believes books should comfort those who feel uncomfortable and challenge people who feel comfortable by making them feel uncomfortable! The interview was transmitted live to schools who could watch from their classrooms but it was a real privilege to see Malorie Blackman and Dapo Adeola in person.



FOOTBALL TEAM

The Argyle school football team showcased incredible teamwork, securing second place in a thrilling tournament. Their skillful play, resilience, and commitment to sportsmanship impressed both supporters and competitors. The coaching staffs dedication played a vital role in fostering a positive atmosphere. Beyond victories, the team forged lasting friendships and valuable life lessons. Congratulations to our talented players for their well-deserved achievement – a testament to hard work, unity, and sportsmanship.



YEAR 4



Visit The British Museum

On Monday, Year 4 returned to the British Museum to visit the newly opened exhibition Legion: **Life in the Roman Army.**

The Roman empire spanned more than a million square miles and owed its existence to its military might. By promising citizenship to those without it, the Roman army – the West's first modern, professional fighting force – also became an engine for creating citizens, offering a better life for soldiers who survived their service. Expansive yet deeply personal, this exhibition transports you across the empire, as well as through the life and service of a real Roman soldier,

Claudius Terentianus, from enlistment and campaigns to enforcing occupation then finally, in Terentianus' case, retirement. Objects include letters written on papyri by soldiers from Roman Egypt and the Vindolanda tablets – some of the oldest surviving handwritten documents in Britain.

The tablets, from the fort near Hadrian's wall, reveal first-hand what daily life was like for soldiers and the women, children and enslaved people who accompanied them.

Through this rich, and often interactive, exhibition, the children got a detailed view of what life could have been like within a Roman Legion.

They checked whether they would measure up to the job: they would have to be at least 172 cm to be accepted and be capable of lifting a set weight!

They also got to try on some of the kit for size, including replica helmets and shields (scutum). They sized up the Roman sandals and even socks knitted to fit each toe. They were impressed by the detail of the chainmail even for the horses. Above all, they were impressed at how so many artefacts had been preserved so beautifully for up to 2000 years and the many skills of the Romans, including their beautiful handwriting!

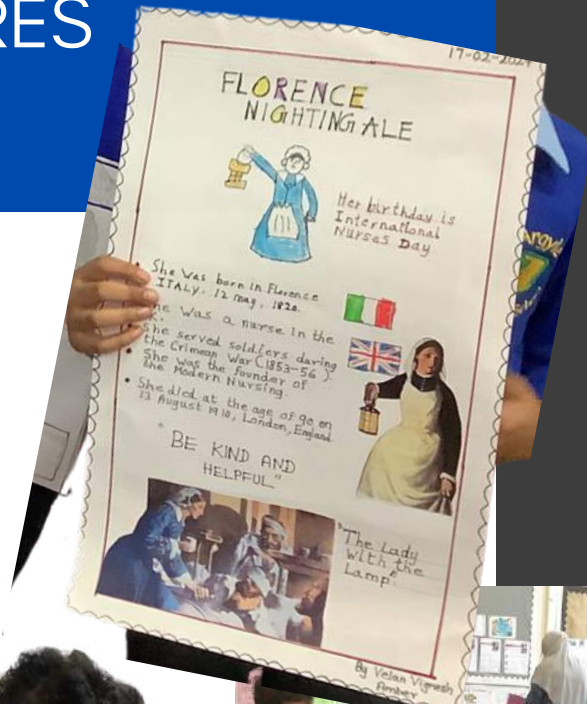


KEYSTAGE 1



HISTORICAL FIGURES HOMEWORK

Children in key stage one have been researching historical heroes over the half term. This week they bravely presented their findings to their classes displaying knowledge of their chosen person. We are very proud of all the children's hard work and the presentations were fantastic. This also helps with their speaking and listening skills which will in turn support both reading and writing.





RECEPTION



Pupils in Reception are on a year long journey of becoming explorers. The children began this half term by exploring the concept of space. Using the book 'Whatever Next' as a stimulus, they talked about their understanding of space. Many children were able to talk about stars and the moon. Building upon this, they learnt facts about space such as the phases of the moon (crescent moon, half moon, full moon). As part of their mathematical development, the children have been learning different ways to make numbers to ten. You can help your child by using sentences such as "5 is made of 4 and 1" or "7 is made of 3 and 4." Understanding number bonds of numbers to 10 is a critical part of early mathematical understanding.



Nursery

This week we started our new topic of Fantasy and did lots of fun activities based on our book, 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson.



We started off our new topic by learning about the difference between fantasy and reality and the children did a great job of spotting the difference between real and fantasy people/animals for our topic poster. We talked about the witch in our story, 'Room on the broom', and learnt the names and uses of all the objects that the witch has with her: a cauldron, broomstick, wand, pointy hat, cloak, a cat. Jo and Shahzada dressed up and pretended to be witches and the children got to interview them. The children asked some brilliant 'why' questions. Esam asked:

"Why do you want to fly everywhere on a broomstick?"

and Royalty wanted to know:

"Why do you have a pet spider?"



Parent tip: Children of 3-4 years of age need lots of practise both asking and answering all kinds of questions. You can help them to develop their questioning skills at home by asking them 'what?', 'where?' and 'why?' questions about their learning, and don't forget to get them to ask you questions about your day, for example "what did you do today?", "where did you go?", etc.

This week in maths we learnt that you can make a pattern using colours, shapes or objects. The children worked together to make a rectangle shape out of a repeating pattern of paint pots and brushes. The children also learnt about measurement this week by making glittery potions in the water tray and learning how to measure out ingredients for potions using jugs, scoops, spoons, cups, ladles and a pinch and a sprinkle of seeds too! They then used these skills to make their own potion mixtures with their parents in this week's stay and play session. They also made up their own spells to see if they make their potions become magical!



Parent tip: Let your children do little jobs to help out in the kitchen. This really helps to develop their fine motor and hand-eye skills, and provides great opportunities for you to talk about different ways of measuring things with them. It's also a brilliant way to get them learning kitchen object names and describing different actions (stirring, mixing, chopping, kneading, rolling).



In phonics we learnt about the 'o' sound. We thought of some words that begin with 'o' and learnt that the letter 'O' sometimes makes different sounds, especially when it is in somebody's name. The children looked at their own name to see whether they had an 'o' and everyone had a go at writing 'o'.

Parent tip: Challenge your child to try and find things that begin with 'o' in their own homes.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All entries on the calendar have been sent via Parenthub, please check your child's class channel for more information. Remember to check your Parenthub often and, as always, if you forget to open the app, it will email you all the messages you've missed.

FEBRUARY 2024

Monday 26th	Catch up clubs for invited pupils from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Wednesday 28th	Trip: Selected Year 6 Dodgeball competition at Talacre Sports Centre from 3pm - 6.15pm
Thursday 29th	Trip: Emerald Class visit The Florence Nightingale Museum from 10.45am - 2.45pm

MARCH 2024

Friday 1st	Trip: Opal Class visit The Florence Nightingale Museum from 10.45am - 2.45pm Results for Secondary Admissions released at 5pm.
Monday 4th	Trip: Reception & Nursery attend The Orchestra of the Enlightenment Concert from 12.30pm - 3pm
Tuesday 5th	Trip: Amber Class visit The Florence Nightingale Museum from 10.45am - 2.45pm
Wednesday 6th	Trip: Selected Years 3 & 4 Dodgeball competition at Talacre Sports Centre from 3pm - 6.15pm
Thursday 7th	World Book Day Trip: Reception Jet visit The Science Museum from 10am - 2.30pm
Friday 8th	Trip: Year 5 visit The Royal Academy of Music from 9.30am - 12pm

Attendance & Punctuality



Week	6	7	8	9	10
Jet	89%				
Topaz	93%				
Amber	94%				
Emerald	93%				
Opal	96%				
3 Garnet	88%				
3 Pearl	91%				
4 Onyx	100%				
4 Quartz	99%				
5 Amethyst	90%				
6 Sapphire	92%				
Total	93%				
Camden	-				



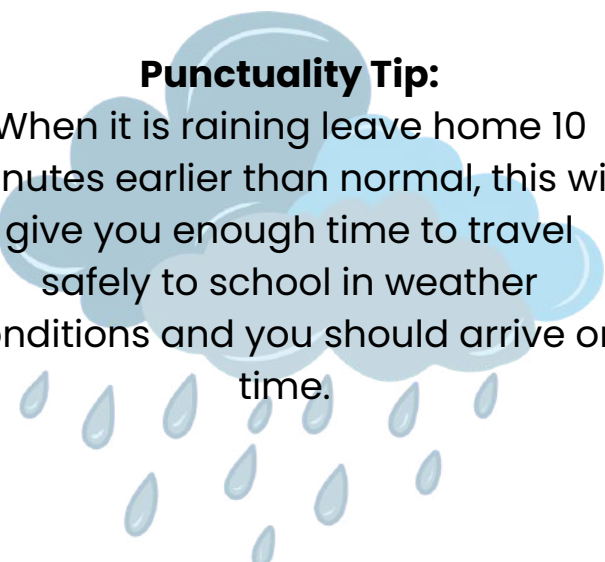
Congratulations to **4 Onyx** for achieving **100%** attendance this week.

Well done to Opal & 4 Quartz for attaining the target of 96% attendance this week.

This week **73** 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. If your child goes through the brown office doors, they will be marked as late.

Punctuality Tip:

When it is raining leave home 10 minutes earlier than normal, this will give you enough time to travel safely to school in weather conditions and you should arrive on time.



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

PARENT WORKSHOPS

FLYING FAMILIES

Flying Families has resumed this week!
Take a look at how flexible the children are.
We love seeing parents/carers taking the plunge and getting stuck in too!
"Look at me, I did it all by myself!"
"We have been so excited to come back from half-term to do this again"
"I love it when it's dark and I'm in the cocoon, it's so relaxing"

We are now FULLY BOOKED for Flying Families. Thank you to everyone who has shown interest. If you are still interested please let Sharmina know so you can be added onto the waiting list.

sharmina.khanom@argyle.camden.sch.uk

Date: Every Wednesday

Time: 3:30pm

Location: School- Top Hall



FAMILY FIRST AID COURSE

This week's topic was on POISONING. Parents and Carers were informed about what to do if everyday household items/essentials that are harmful are consumed by children.

A shocking fact that took lots of people by surprise were these FOAM PEANUTS which can be found in packaging.

Foam peanuts are very dangerous and should NOT be given to children to play with because if consumed it they expand inside the stomach. These also are NOT visibly seen on X-rays! Please throw away foam peanuts if included in your packages!

A reminder that if you have registered to attend the Family First Aid course you must attend ALL sessions in order to receive a certificate. If you are unable to attend for that week please let Sharmina or Alison know so we can authorise your absence.

Date: Every Friday

Time: 9am-11am

Location: FLC



PHONICS WORKSHOP

Well done to everyone who attended the Phonics Workshop with Marie on Thursday! I have received such great feedback on how insightful it was. Remember the course is for 10 weeks and every week Marie will be going through different ways you can support your child with their phonics at home. From making fun games to take home to learning new strategies—please ensure you don't miss out! Remember YOU are your child's first teacher!

Date: Every Thursday

Time: 9am-11am

Location: FLC

FREE COURSE



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



Argyle
Primary
School

BELINDA DRAKE IS A LECTURER EMPLOYED BY WESTMINSTER KINGSWAY COLLEGE



Westminster
Kingsway College