

# A NEWSLETTER A



## HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week, we were delighted to once again welcome parents into school to see what the children are learning and how they can be supported at home. Maths open classrooms took place in Years 3, 4 and 5, and it was wonderful to see such a large number of parents attending. As before, the feedback was extremely positive. One parent even commented that she would have loved maths herself if she had been taught in the way children are taught at our school.

We also welcomed parents into phonics sessions in Reception, where attendance was above 80%. Thank you to our parents for showing such strong commitment to supporting early reading.

As you are aware, we are now a Little Wandle Champion School, in recognition of excellence in the teaching of reading. The Little Wandle scheme combines explicit phonics teaching with the development of a genuine love of reading. At Argyle, we truly value reading, and children enjoy a weekly reading-for-pleasure session, choosing from a wide range of high-quality books.

Please continue to enjoy books as a family and read regularly at home with your children – your support makes a real difference.

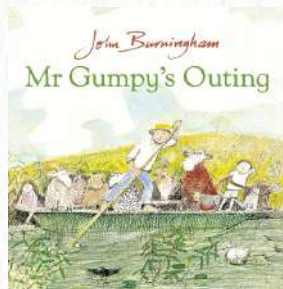
*J. Wade*  
Head Teacher

# NURSERY

This week, we continued our topic on transport and moved from travelling on the ground to travelling on water.

The children learned all about boats and how they move: some travel by paddling, some use an engine, and others move with sails to catch the wind.

We read Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham, a story about a man who owns a boat and lives by a river. One day, Mr Gumpy agrees to take some children—and several animals—on a boat trip with him. Unfortunately, the animals and children do not follow his instructions, the boat tips over, and everyone falls into the water!



We created a story map together and learned lots of exciting action words, such as kick, tease, trample, flap and muck about. During our Stay & Play session on Friday, parents and children worked together to match pictures of the animals to the correct action words before sticking them onto Mr Gumpy's boat.

In phonics, the children learned the 'c' and 'k' sounds and noticed that they make the same sound. We played What's in the Box? to identify words beginning with c and k, including car, cap, kite and Khaleel.

# C

# K

On Thursday, the children were very excited to meet Isobel Manning, an artist working with the Foundling Museum. Isobel took the children on a journey through the streets of 18th-century London, helping them to discover why the Foundling Hospital was a safe place where foundling children could belong. The children then had the opportunity to explore the idea of shelter by building their own dens using a range of creative materials.



# RECEPTION

This week in Reception, we began our exciting new topic on dinosaurs.

The children shared what they already knew and impressed us with their knowledge, including that dinosaurs laid eggs, that some were plant-eaters while others ate meat, and that dinosaurs lived a very long time ago and are now extinct.

In handwriting, we started learning the names of alphabet letters and how to form capital letters.

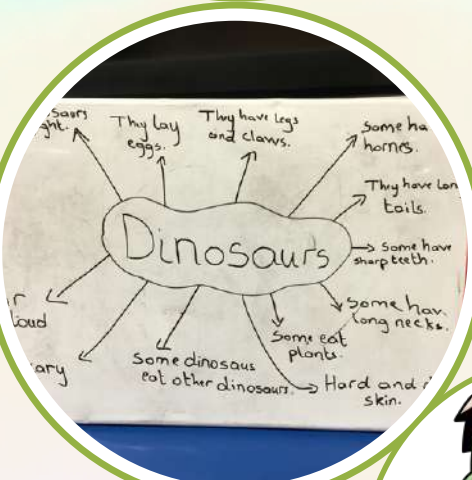
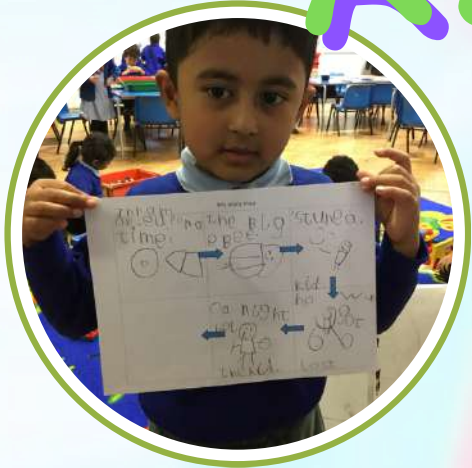
The children explored how capital letters are used and practised reading and spelling simple phrases using both upper- and lower-case letters.

Two of our phrases this week were **"Big bee."** and **"Duck doll."**

We used these as titles for our own made-up stories. The children thoroughly enjoyed creating stories together orally and then drawing story maps, using pictures and a few words to help retell their ideas.

In PE, the children have been developing their teamwork and ball skills through a range of games. This week, they focused on controlling and sharing a ball with a partner.

They did a fantastic job rolling the ball gently to one another, first while sitting and then while standing.



## Science Museum Trip

Year 1 had a wonderful time on our trip to the Science Museum. We travelled there by tube and were very excited when we arrived. The children explored a range of fascinating exhibitions and enjoyed learning about space, creating different patterns, and how our bodies work. One of the highlights of the day was seeing the large sphere in the Space gallery, which transformed from the Sun to different planets and then to the Moon. The children also loved taking part in the hands-on activities in The Garden gallery. Throughout the visit, the children were excellent listeners and showed great curiosity by asking thoughtful questions. We all had a memorable day and were very proud of Year 1.

## Gymnastics

In PE, we have been practising gymnastics using a range of apparatus to balance, jump and travel safely. The children particularly enjoyed using the benches, mats and climbing frames, showing growing confidence and control in their movements.

## Garden Classroom

The children enjoyed an exciting session in the garden classroom, even though it was raining. The children showed great resilience as they balanced carefully on the rope and explored the mud kitchen. They helped with weeding and took pride in looking after our outdoor space. The children also enjoyed playing musical instruments and investigating whether a campfire could work in the rain. Everyone worked safely, cooperated well and had lots of fun learning outdoors.

Daisy - The rain has made mud and my hands are covered in mucky, soft mud.

Hafsa - Me and Zaynab are making rainbows with our wellies by moving them on the mud.

Arifah - I think the robin made this nest because it is small and cosy.

Izyaan - With this instrument we are making the music to 'it's raining and pouring'.

Zakariya - digging out soil is so much fun but taking out the weeds are hard because the roots of plants are everywhere.

# YEAR 1

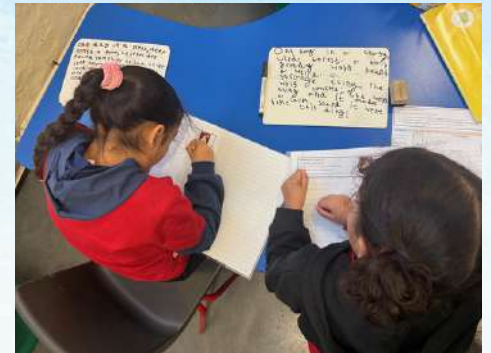


PGCE research - reminder that year 1 children will be taking part in a research project with their student teacher. If you DO NOT want your child to take part make sure to respond to the message on ParentHub with a 'NO'

# YEAR 2

This week in Year 2, the children have continued practising counting mixed amounts of coins to make £1. They have risen to the challenge of giving change from a given amount. You can support your child at home by encouraging them to practise counting coins and working out simple amounts of change.

**In Literacy**, the children have been writing their own versions of The Bear and the Piano. Ayaana wrote a wonderful story about a “good, helpful dog who finds a shiny, metal trumpet in the forest.” Lovely use of noun phrases, Ayaana!



**In Computing**, the children have been enjoying their unit on digital music and explored Chrome Music Lab on the computers. Aaniyah exclaimed, “Wow, listen to this cool beat I made!” – a real highlight of the lesson.



**During PE**, the children worked in pairs to practise sending and receiving a tennis ball and football by rolling and bouncing. These activities helped to develop their coordination and teamwork skills.



**In History**, the children have been learning about the local historical figure Thomas Coram. To support their learning, the children will be visiting the Foundling Museum next week – Amber class on Wednesday afternoon and Opal class on Thursday afternoon.



Fantastic work this week, Year 2! ✨

# YEAR 3

Year 3 delighted parents and carers with an engaging class assembly all about stone trolls, the Stone Age and rocks.

The children confidently shared what they have been learning, blending storytelling with fascinating facts about life in the Stone Age and the different types of rocks.

The assembly ended with an energetic and impressive drumming performance, showcasing the children's rhythm, teamwork and enthusiasm.

Well done to Year 3 for a fun, informative and memorable assembly!

Miss Quinn, Miss Rina, Mr Vito, Miss Maria and Ms Pryce are incredibly proud of you all!



# YEAR 4

This week, Year 4 had the exciting opportunity to take part in a computing workshop at the Camden Learning Centre. The children learned how to design and build a Lego fairground ride, working collaboratively to add motors, LED lights and even colour sensors to their creations.

Using careful programming and problem-solving skills, the children brought their models to life, with the fairground rides moving just like the real thing. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that developed both their computing knowledge and teamwork skills, and the children thoroughly enjoyed seeing their ideas come to life.



"My carousel was spinning to fast, so I had to make it slower." - Teliyah.



"We've changed the colours of our lights and added music to the ride!" - Erhan.

"The motor makes the tea cups spin around!" - Ivanna.



# YEAR 5

This week in Year 5, we have been busy with a wide range of exciting and practical learning opportunities.

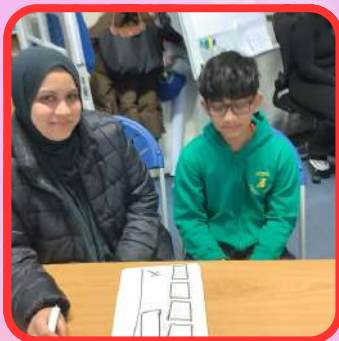
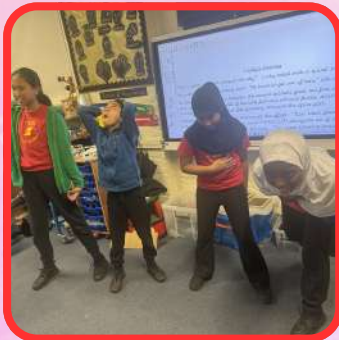
In **PE**, we continued our cricket sessions with specialist coaches. The children took part in a variety of games designed to develop their batting, bowling and fielding skills, while also improving agility and movement on the pitch.

In **PSHE**, we carried on with our First Aid training. The children practised how to place a patient into the recovery position, how to carry out a primary survey, and how to communicate clearly and effectively with the emergency services.

In **Science**, we explored how scientists develop ideas and ask important questions. We examined theories about gravity from Aristotle, Galileo and Newton, focusing on the question, "Will a heavier object fall faster?" We tested this by dropping cubes made from different materials and observed that they appeared to hit the ground at the same time. We then investigated wind resistance by comparing how long different helicopter spinners took to fall.

In **Literacy**, we have been learning a model story based on Phoenix by S.F. Said, a dystopian science-fiction adventure. After learning all five paragraphs, the children worked on summarising the main events and created freeze frames to represent each part of the story.

Finally, we welcomed parents into our classroom for a multiplication workshop. We began with a fun dice game to build confidence with calculations, before moving on to breaking down larger multiplication problems using an area model. It was wonderful to work together and share strategies for supporting learning at home.



# YEAR 6

On Tuesday, Year 6 visited Bletchley Park, the secret home of Britain's codebreakers during the Second World War. We learnt that the men and women who worked there had to sign the Official Secrets Act and were unable to speak about their work for 50 years!

The day began with an engaging workshop on codes and ciphers. The children learnt how the Germans communicated using coded messages, which were typed into an Enigma machine to scramble the message. These coded messages were sent by radio, intercepted by listening stations across the UK and then delivered to Bletchley Park by despatch riders on motorbikes. Codebreakers at Bletchley Park worked tirelessly to decode and translate the messages so the British government could uncover the Germans' plans.

During the workshop, the children worked in groups to crack messages written using five different ciphers: Atbash, Number Code, Caesar Cipher, Morse Code and Pig Pen. They also learnt about the extraordinary mechanics of the Enigma machine, including its rotors, switches, keys and plugboard.

The children discovered that it was battery-operated and worked in a similar way to the simple circuits they create in science lessons—just with many more components! To finish the session, everyone had the exciting opportunity to press a key on an original German Enigma machine.

After lunch, we split into two groups and explored the nineteenth-century mansion house, the historic huts and parts of the museum. It was a fascinating and memorable visit that brought our learning about World War Two vividly to life.



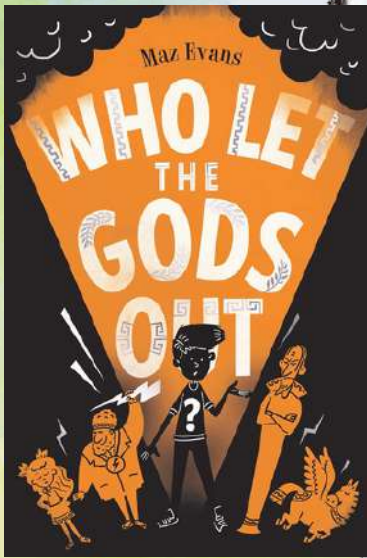
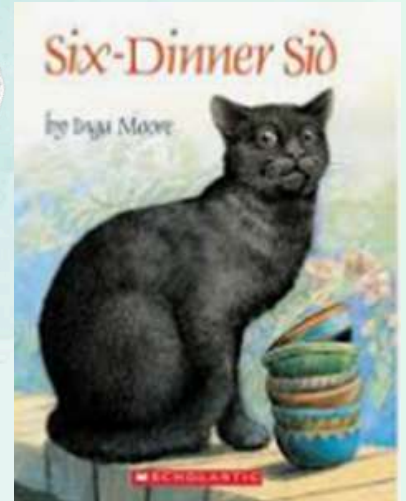
# Reading for Pleasure

## Teacher Book Recommendations



Rachel

I would highly recommend reading *Six Dinner Sid* by Inga Moore which is about a black cat named Sid who lives on Aristotle Street. He is a cunning black cat who doesn't live in 1 house but instead he lives in six different houses! He receives six meals a day by charming each owner into thinking he's their cat alone. Eventually his owners discover his double life and agree to share him.



*Who Let the Gods Out?* is a funny, fast-paced adventure full of Greek mythology and laugh-out-loud moments. It follows Elliot Hooper, an ordinary boy whose life changes when he meets Virgo, a slightly grumpy goddess, and discovers the Greek gods are real – and in serious trouble.

Although the story is packed with humour, it also explores courage, kindness and doing the right thing when life feels difficult. Elliot isn't a superhero; he's brave because he cares.

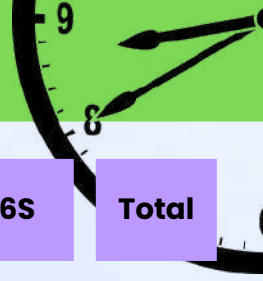
If you enjoy adventure, mythology and books that make you laugh, this would be a brilliant read.



Ms Jones



# Attendance & Punctuality



Class	1J	2A	2O	3P	4E	4O	5A	5Q	6S	Total
Week 1	93%	96%	92%	91%	92%	90%	92%	92%	98%	91%
Week 2	93%	94%	94%	94%	94%	92%	95%	95%	94%	96%
Week 3	93%	95%	94%	94%	94%	92%	95%	95%	95%	95%

Unfortunately no classes achieved 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

## JANUARY

<b>MONDAY 26th</b>	<b>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)</b>
<b>TUESDAY 27th</b>	<b>Year 4 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Cooking Club, years 1, 2 &amp; 3 Group 1 - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 4, 5 &amp; 6 - 3 15pm to 4 15pm</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 28th</b>	<b>ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am 2 Amber to The Foundling Museum - 12.50pm to 2.10pm Year 5 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Football Club, years 1, 2 &amp; 3 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Selected year 5 &amp; 6 children to a dodgeball competition @ Talacre - 3pm to 6.15pm</b>
<b>THURSDAY 29th</b>	<b>5 Amethyst class assembly, parents invited - 8.55am Year 4 to Holborn Library for DT workshop - 9.30am to 12pm 2 Opal to The Foundling Museum - 12.50pm to 2.10pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 1, 2 &amp; 3 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Cooking Club, years 4, 5 &amp; 6 group 1 - 3.13pm to 4.30pm</b>
<b>FRIDAY 30th</b>	<b>Football Club, years 4, 5 &amp; 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm</b>

# Community Notices



SCARABEUS  
AERIAL  
THEATRE

Click to see our Flying Families video

## Flying Families

Have more fun as a family!

Thursdays 3.30-5pm 29<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Argyle Primary School

A FREE 8-week programme of aerial cocoon, yoga, movement and games for families with children aged 5 to 10 years.

*"I loved bonding with my child in such an exciting and exhilarating way!"*

Flying Families helps families relax and enjoy quality time together, while building stronger family bonds in an open, fun and stress-free setting. You'll learn new skills, socialise with other families, whilst building confidence and improving your health and wellbeing.

To join in or for more information contact  
The Child & Family Support Worker, Sophia Robey:  
[sophia.robey@argyle.camden.sch.uk](mailto:sophia.robey@argyle.camden.sch.uk) or call 020 7837 4590

[www.scarabeus.co.uk](http://www.scarabeus.co.uk)  
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Registered Charity  
No.: 1063689




Learn English fast and for free at Argyle Primary School



ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES  
**ESOL**

## 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  
WCLH 9EG



## Girls Get Moving Monday

When: Every Monday of the school holidays except on bank holidays.

Location: Talacre Community Sports Centre, NW5 3AF

Time: 4pm – 6pm

Price: FREE

For more information visit: [camden.gov.uk/holidayactivities](http://camden.gov.uk/holidayactivities)

Scan QR Code to visit website and register:




Photo: Karishma Puri