

NEWSLETTER



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week, we were delighted to receive a message from Bridget Phillipson, Secretary of State for Education, acknowledging the hard work of our pupils and staff and recognising the outstanding outcomes achieved at Argyle Primary School.

Below are two extracts from the letter. The full letter can be read on the next page of this newsletter.

A message from
Bridget Phillipson



Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Argyle Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

We are incredibly proud that the achievements of our pupils and staff have been recognised at a national level. These successes are a true reflection of our strong partnership between pupils, staff, families, and the wider Argyle community – and something we can all celebrate together.

J. Wade
Head Teacher

A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Ms Wade

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Argyle Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader – sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

There are real opportunities available for you to support improvement for a wider group of pupils including through:

- engaging actively with [your region's RISE networks](#) and partnering with nearby schools and trusts;
- contributing to regional roundtables and professional communities to spread the approaches that are working in your context; and
- sustaining excellence by continuing to focus on disadvantaged pupils

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget".

Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education

NURSERY



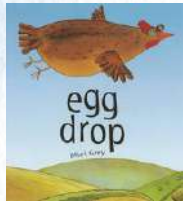
In Nursery this week, we learned about air transport. The children thought about things that can fly and sorted them into living things (such as birds, bats and insects) and machines (including aeroplanes, helicopters and hot air balloons).



We discussed how different things fly and decided that wings are very important, and that machines sometimes also need an engine.

Our key word this week was 'egg', and we learned that some animals, such as birds, reptiles and insects, lay eggs. Many of these animals can also fly.

We enjoyed reading *Egg Drop* by Mini Grey, about an egg that wants to fly before it hatches. During stay and play, parents and children worked together to put the broken eggs back together, and the children also designed and made their own egg machines.



In phonics, we learned the 'e' sound and practised words such as egg, elephant, elbow, envelope and excited, as well as writing the letter e.

In maths, we focused on number 4, counting out four objects and arranging them in the dice pattern.



On Thursday, we enjoyed a visit from the team at the Foundling Museum. The children learned that the building was once the Foundling Hospital, where many children lived without parents. They explored Tracey Emin's *Lost Mitten* artwork, a tiny pink mitten symbolising being lost and waiting to be found. The children then decorated their own mittens and took part in a pattern-matching activity.



RECEPTION

SPECIAL REPORT: DINOSAURS!

This week in Reception, the children continued learning about dinosaurs and explored just how long ago they lived. To help them understand 66 million years, we created a timeline stretching across the classroom. We started with the present day, added Reception children's baby photos, then Jo's baby picture, and finally travelled all the way back to the time of the dinosaurs — so far that Jo nearly had to leave the classroom!

The children learned that we know about dinosaurs through fossil evidence and became palaeontologists by taking part in a fossil dig. They also had the exciting opportunity to examine real fossils dating back 180 million years.



YEAR 1

TEDDY BEAR CLINIC

At the Teddy Bear Clinic, children enjoyed a fun, hands-on session learning about germs and healthy habits. They explored how germs spread and why cleaning is so important, practising proper handwashing by scrubbing while singing "Happy Birthday" to get the timing just right. The children also learned how to brush their teeth correctly, helping them develop healthy routines in a playful and engaging way.



Aymen - We have to brush the back of our teeth as well.

Hafsa - To wash our hands to get rid of germs sing the 'happy birthday' song twice.

MAP DRAWING

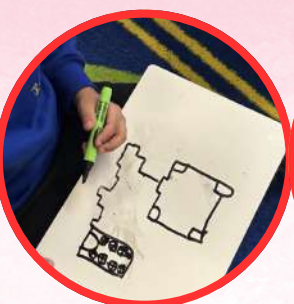
During geography fieldwork, the children explored the playground by drawing their own maps and identifying key features. They took part in a sensory walk, using their senses to spot and discuss man made and natural elements. The activity also promoted sustainability, as children noticed litter and talked about the importance of caring for our environment.



Arza - Rubbish thrown in our playground can hurt the animals.

Kenza - We did a senses walk and I felt the cold wet rain on my face and the wild wind blowing my hood off.

Zakariya - I pretended to be a bird when I drew the map of the big playground because a map is done in a bird's eye view.



Spoons Roleplay

Traction Man came to the rescue, saving the spoons while wearing an all-in-one green romper suit, which caused lots of laughter! This imaginative roleplay inspired the children to continue writing their own comic strips. They confidently used speech and thought bubbles and even explored onomatopoeia, bringing their stories to life with action words and sound effects.

YEAR 1



Nuh - I got a baby green outfit and that's why they are laughing at me.

Arifah - All in a days work!

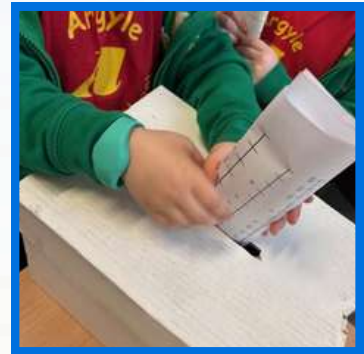
Amira - Here is a medal.

Mohamed - I will save you spoons.



Voting

During Class Council, the children took part in a real life voting experience. They used ballot papers, a voting booth and a ballot box to cast their votes, learning about fairness, choice and democracy in a practical and engaging way.



Garden Classroom 7

This week, the children in the Garden Classroom welcomed spring by making St Brigid's Crosses. They explored this traditional Northern Irish craft, learning how it marks St Brigid's Day—a time of new beginnings, light, and growth. Using natural materials, the children carefully wove their crosses and enjoyed hands-on learning outdoors as we celebrated the changing season.

Yousef - We decorated two lollysticks and then wrapped a small shell with wool and pipecleaners.



Zaynab - We made evergreen bracelets and necklaces by colouring in leaves that have fallen from deciduous trees.

YEAR 2

This week, Year 2 have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum.

In **Literacy**, the children learned how to write a fact file. They worked in groups to match present and past tense verbs, before recording their learning in their books.

In **Maths**, the children began solving division problems by learning how to share groups equally. They showed great teamwork and concentration throughout the activities.

In **Science**, Year 2 explored the importance of good hygiene. They carried out a simple experiment to test how effective soap is at repelling germs, with Nuzhat squealing in delight, "Look at the pepper move away from the soap!"

In **RE**, the children reflected on why it is important to say sorry and explored different ways to show this when we make poor choices. They expressed their thoughts by designing a candle using symbols and colours to represent their feelings.

Well done, Year 2 – fantastic learning this week!



YEAR 6

Year 6 recently enjoyed an exciting art experience at the Capital City College, where they learned sculptural ceramic techniques and explored lino printing.

Working in two groups, the pupils were fully engaged and focused, producing high-quality artwork in just one afternoon that they were extremely proud of. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to experience secondary-level art and higher education within the Art Department. Taking their finished sculptures home will be a wonderful, lasting reminder of this inspiring creative experience.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

This week, pupils took part in an exciting school council election, casting their votes at the ballot box to choose one boy and one girl from each class to represent them. The process gave children a valuable opportunity to experience democracy in action.

The successful candidates were announced during Friday morning's assembly. Congratulations to our new School Council representatives:

1 Jade: Esam and Luna

2 Opal: Maryam Ahmed S

2 Amber: Yusra and Taha

3 Pearl: Amaarah and Suleyman

4 Onyx: Ishaq and Maryama

4 Emerald: Dahlia and Hussain

5 Amethyst: Tasmiyah and Yameen

5 Quartz: Mohammad Almasri and Tayyiba

6 Sapphire: Tala and Dahlia



Well done to everyone who took part—we look forward to seeing the great ideas our School Council will share this year!

ART CLUB

Last Thursday and again this week, our Art Club was buzzing with creativity as children from Years 1, 2, and 3 designed their very own diamond bookmarks for their reading books.

The children had great fun choosing their favourite animal designs and decorating them with lots of shiny, colourful diamonds. There was plenty of concentration, creativity, and excitement as each bookmark came to life—no two were the same!

Not only was this activity fun and relaxing, but we're hoping these dazzling bookmarks will add a little extra magic to reading time and encourage the children to dive into their books even more.

Here's what some of our students had to say about it..

“

Amaarah:

I really liked how we were able to be creative with our book mark can't wait to use it when I read.

”

“

Liona and memuna:

We liked the diamonds and colours it was fun being creative

”



Reading for Pleasure

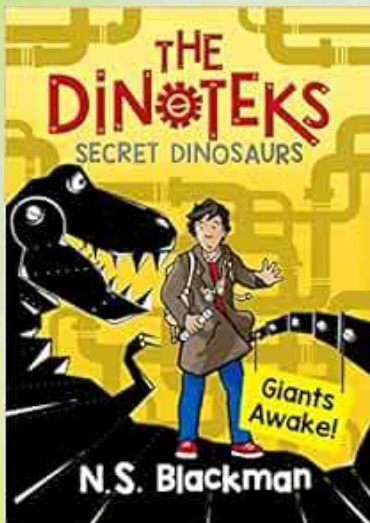
Teacher Book Recommendations



Ms Tunu

The Dangerous Pet Lover's Guide to Dragons is a witty, heartfelt story that reimagines dragons as misunderstood pets who need care, patience, and respect. Written in a playful, accessible tone, Hirst and McKinley blend humour with genuine warmth, creating lively characters and dragons that are unpredictable yet endearing.

What makes the book especially valuable in the classroom is how gently it explores themes of empathy, responsibility, and challenging assumptions, without ever feeling preachy. Perfect for children who enjoy imaginative fantasy and clever humour, it also lends itself well to discussions about friendship, diversity, and caring for others. Overall, it's a joyful, thoughtful read that will leave young readers smiling—and maybe wishing for a dragon of their own.



The Dinotek's Secret Dinosaurs is a super-fun book for children who love dinosaurs, gadgets, and big discoveries. Readers are taken inside a secret lab where dinosaurs are brought to life in surprising ways.

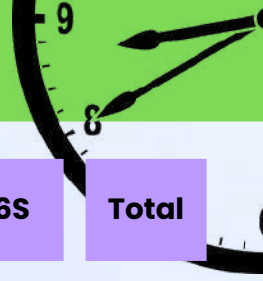
Packed with cool facts, thrilling moments, and wow-worthy ideas, the book makes learning feel like a real adventure. Exciting, clever, and full of prehistoric fun, it's a true dino must-read!



Ms Barrett



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%
Week 4	93%	95%	94%	95%	94%	92%	95%	95%	95%	93%
Week 5	93%	95%	93%	95%	94%	92%	95%	95%	95%	93%

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.

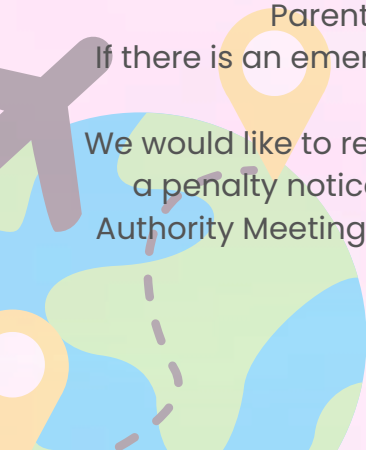
Exceptional Leave

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

FEBRUARY

MONDAY 9th	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 10th	4 Emerald class assembly - Parents invited from 8.55am 10 children from year 1 to Chapter One offices - 9.30am to 1.30pm 20 children from year 2 to Chapter One offices - 11.30am to 3pm Year 4 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
WEDNESDAY 11th	4 children from year 6 to Camden Maths Challenge @ Eleanor Palmer - 8.30am to 3.30pm 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
THURSDAY 12th	Year 4 to Holborn Library for DT workshop - 9.30am to 12pm 2 Opal to CLC - 9.10am to 2.15pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art Club, years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
FRIDAY 13th	Reception Jet to The Natural History Museum - 9.30am to 2.30pm Football Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm

Half term holdiday: Mon 16th to Fri 20th Feb

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

ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Tombridge Street, London
WC3H 9EG



Tales from the doctors' library: family storytelling & crafts

Tuesday 17 February 10am - 12.30pm

Join professional London storyteller **Vanessa Woolf** for a colourful interactive storytime with music, props and even smells!

Plus, our 'Patterns, pages and prints' crafts activity room will be open to have a go at printing your own patterns, creating moving diagrams, making bookmarks, colouring fabulous pictures and more!

Tickets: £8 per child

Two-for-one offer available now!

Recommended for children aged 5 - 11 but all are welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult but accompanying adults can attend free.

Royal College of Physicians,
11 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London
NW1 4LE

@RCPmuseum
#BodyofKnowledge
@rcpmuseum haley social



For access information and how to get here, please visit the website history.rcp.ac.uk/visit-us

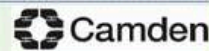
Or contact us history@rcp.ac.uk

To book, visit



history.rcp.ac.uk/events

Camden Family Learning FREE Story Sacks for Children Aged 3 Years Plus



Half Term Story Telling Sessions On

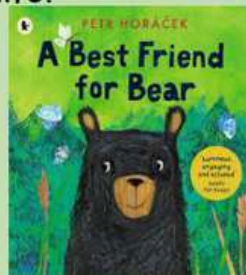
Tuesday 17th February
Pancras Square Library, N1C 4AG
10:30am - 12noon
Queens Crescent Library, NW5 4HH
1:30pm - 3:00pm

Wednesday 18th February
Kentish Town Library, NW5 2AA
10:30am - 12noon
Highgate Library, N19 5DH
1:30pm - 3:00pm

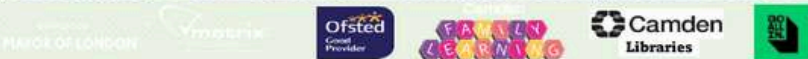
Call Alison on 07876 651950 to book your place
You must book to join in (due to health & safety rules)

A fun arts and crafts resource making session to bring the story to life.

Make a prop to join in with the adventure.



Every family will be gifted with a copy of the book



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

Scan QR Code to visit website and register:



Photo: Karishma Puri

Community Notices