

NEWSLETTER



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

We are now more than halfway through the academic year, and this is an important point for schools. We must carefully review the progress pupils have made so far and make any necessary adjustments to help them reach their academic targets. At the same time, we are planning ahead ensuring we meet the needs of current pupils while creating sustainable structures for future years. This work takes place alongside changing national expectations, including new Ofsted standards, while we continue working towards our own long-term goals agreed with our school community.

At Argyle, we are confident that we provide a very good education. Our curriculum is exciting and engaging, with enrichment opportunities for all children. We maintain high standards, prioritise pupils' wellbeing, and provide targeted support where needed. We are proud to foster a happy school community and value working closely with parents and stakeholders to address any concerns.

Next week, you will be invited to complete the Spring term parent questionnaire. While feedback is usually very positive, response numbers can be low. Please support our ongoing review and improvement by completing the questionnaire. In the coming weeks, each newsletter will also highlight an aspect of the new Ofsted framework to help you understand how schools are currently evaluated.



J. Wade

Head Teacher

Ofsted and Safeguarding

Ofsted will gather evidence on how effectively the school establishes an open and positive safeguarding culture that puts pupils' interests first, and how leaders take a strong, whole-school approach to safeguarding.

Inspectors will evaluate how the school works with multi-agency partners and parents to protect pupils from harm, both in person and online. They will review how statutory guidance is implemented, including safer recruitment, staff and governor training, risk assessment of school activities, and how pupils are taught to stay safe. They will also consider how effectively the school supports families and works with other agencies to promote the wellbeing of all children, especially those who are more vulnerable.

Overall, inspectors expect clear evidence that schools remain vigilant, maintain an attitude of "it could happen here," and respond swiftly to any concerns.

For more information about safeguarding at Argyle Primary School, please visit our website:

<https://www.argyle.camden.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding%2C+Inclusion+%26amp%3B+Welfare+Policies&pid=35>

To discuss any safeguarding matters, please contact the school office to arrange a meeting with one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads.

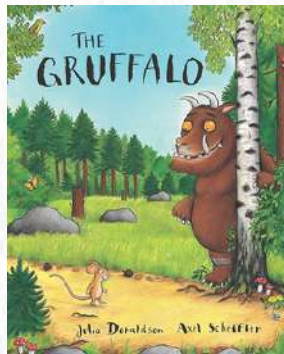
Nursery

This week we began our exciting new Fantasy topic with activities inspired by **The Gruffalo** by Julia Donaldson.

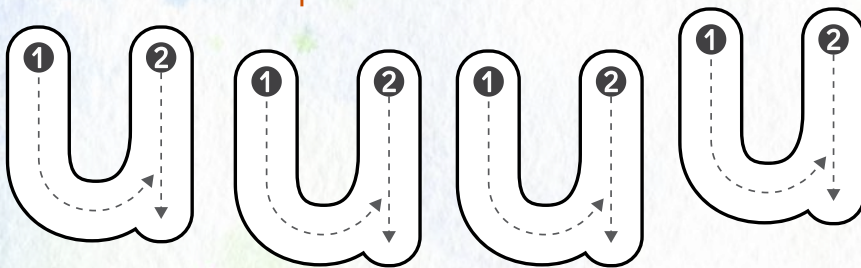
The children enjoyed describing the Gruffalo and comparing him to other monsters in our nursery books. They noticed that monsters often have large, exaggerated features like big eyes, teeth, and claws, and learned to describe details such as his purple prickles, knobby knees, black tongue, and terrible teeth.

The children had lots of fun inventing their own Gruffalo style meals, such as "scrambled snake," "owl ice cream," and "roasted fox."

In circle time, we talked about when characters felt brave or afraid, and the children shared their own experiences. In

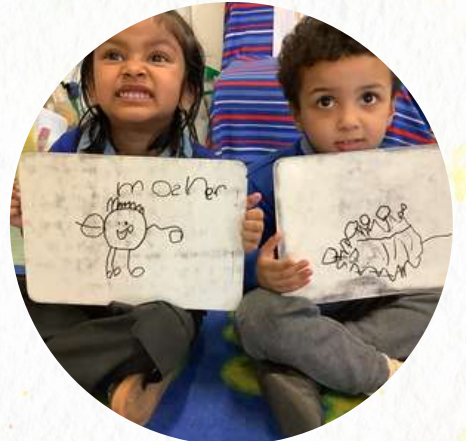


Phonics, we focused on the 'u' sound, and everyone practised writing the letter, with Abdullah and Musa excited to spot it in their names.



In Maths, we played a Gruffalo dice game, matching numbers to puzzle pieces. The children also made creative Gruffalo masks and, during our stay-and-play session, worked with parents to create wonderful monster collages.

We also welcomed a visit from the Foundling Museum. Musician Hugo Lau brought to life what it was like for children living in the historic Foundling Hospital through music and song.



Reception

Natural History Museum Trip!

On the last day of term, Reception visited the Natural History Museum! Our main aim was to see dinosaur fossils and learn more about these fascinating prehistoric creatures.

During our visit, we saw many incredible fossils, including Triceratops, Stegosaurus, Euoplocephalus and Velociraptor. The highlight for many children was watching the very realistic model of Tyrannosaurus Rex, which roared loudly and amazed us all!

We also explored the gallery dedicated to Mary Anning and discovered some of the first marine reptiles she found over 200 years ago in Lyme Regis, including plesiosaurs and ichthyosaurs. The children were fascinated to learn about her important discoveries and how they helped us understand prehistoric life.



Space Topic

Back at school this term, we began our exciting new space topic by reading *Whatever Next!* by Jill Murphy. The story is about a bear who imagines travelling to the moon in a cardboard-box rocket while wearing a colander as a space helmet! This inspired wonderful discussions about space travel. Micha said, "It would be too scary to go to the moon," while Zayan shared, "Astronauts are very brave." The children also enjoyed pretending to be astronauts in Reception's space investigation area.



In maths this week, the children continued learning about part whole models and explored different ways to make the number 10. They used ten frames and rekenreks to play "What's missing from 10?" with their talk partners and practised recording their answers using part-whole models. The children showed great enthusiasm and growing confidence in their number skills.

In Phonics the children did amazing work - independently writing a whole sentence for the first time!

Year 1



Teddy Bear Clinic

Our classroom was transformed into a wonderful Teddy Bear Clinic! The children listened to stories about visiting the doctor and talked about feelings, bravery, and how healthcare professionals help us.

They then became doctors themselves, carefully examining their teddy bears, checking heartbeats and temperatures, and giving pretend medicine. The children showed great kindness, gentle care, and fantastic imagination. It was a lovely way to learn about caring for others while building confidence through role play.



Science Workshop Surprise!

We were very lucky to welcome a real scientist from the Francis Crick Institute for an exciting workshop. The children used their five senses to make predictions during a fun "What's in the Bag?" activity. They showed brilliant scientific thinking and explained their ideas clearly. The big surprise was discovering the mystery item was cold vanilla ice cream, what a treat! Well done to our fantastic young scientists.

Garden Classroom Adventures

In the Garden Classroom, we observed colourful crocuses and talked about signs of spring. The children pretended to grow like plants, searched for daffodils, and spotted buds on the cherry tree. They also learned about edible plants and made delicious quesadillas, enjoying the smells and watching the cheese melt. To finish, the children went on a nature hunt and created beautiful collages using their natural treasures.

It has been a fantastic week of discovery, creativity, and hands on learning indoors and outdoors.



Check out these amazing half term projects completed by Kenza, Salma, Daisy and Ahnaf. Well done to you all! We hope to see many more projects coming in soon.

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have made a fantastic start to Spring Term 2 with a busy and exciting few days of learning.

On Monday, the children took part in a virtual event with the brilliant author Olaf Falafel. They enjoyed a lively read-aloud from his newly released book *The Far-Out Five: Snot Jelly Island* and followed a step by step drawing tutorial to sketch one of the characters, Spewnicorn. We were so impressed by their creativity, take a look at some of their wonderful drawings!

We were also lucky to welcome two inspiring in-house visitors. The Place delivered an engaging workshop where the children explored storytelling through dance, using movement to express ideas and emotions. Meanwhile, The Francis Crick Institute sparked great curiosity as the children used microscopes to investigate a range of fascinating classroom objects.

On top of all this, Year 2 showed incredible focus and resilience during assessment week, successfully completing six maths and literacy assessments.

Well done, Year 2, for your perseverance and determination, you should be very proud of yourselves!



Year 4

This week, Argyle were fortunate to be visited by scientists from the Francis Crick Institute. As part of their Sound topic, Year 4 used their Interested Inquirer skills to design an experiment exploring why humans have two ears. They discovered that their volunteer was far more accurate at identifying the direction of a sound when using both ears rather than one. The children are already excited for next year, when they will have the opportunity to visit the institute themselves!



Nouran: "We all have to speak at the same volume to make it fair."

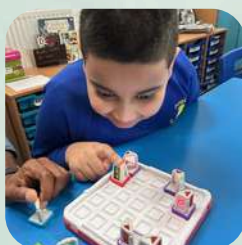
Rayhan: "She definitely found it easier to hear when one ear wasn't covered with a headphone."

Ishaq: "You need ears on both sides of your head so you can hear sounds made all around you."

Year 6

Year 6 launched their new science topic on Light with an exciting workshop from the Crick. They began by exploring how light travels and how we see objects. After predicting that light travels in straight lines, they carried out investigations to test their theory using kits with lasers and mirrors.

The challenge was to position the mirrors so the laser beam hit a target, following a series of increasingly tricky challenge cards. The workshop was great fun, and the children successfully proved that light travels in straight lines!



Year 5

On Tuesday, Year 5 joined around 50 other schools online for an exciting Zoom session with Helen O'Brien from Imperial College London to learn all about space weather. They discovered how scientists monitor changes in the magnetosphere, known as geomagnetic storms, and how these can create spectacular light displays such as the Aurora, or Northern Lights.

The children also explored how space weather can affect everyday life, including disrupting GPS systems, causing power outages, and impacting aircraft technology. During the session, they created informative posters to showcase their learning and recorded thoughtful questions, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm for this fascinating topic.



On Thursday, 5 Quartz had the first of their Flying into Physics sessions with Scarabeus. They began with some floor exercises to identify the muscles they would use when up in the harness, as well as practising an effective grip when working with a partner.

Then it was time to fly! The children tried four different positions:

Ball – making a small shape with the rope hanging straight down.

Pencil – keeping their bodies long and straight, with legs together.

Star – stretching out all four limbs wide.

Upside down – learning how to carefully roll into this challenging position.

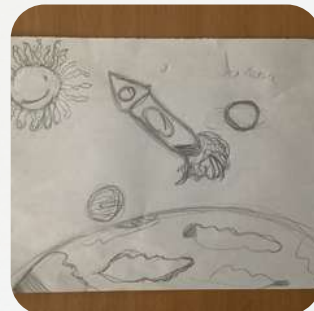
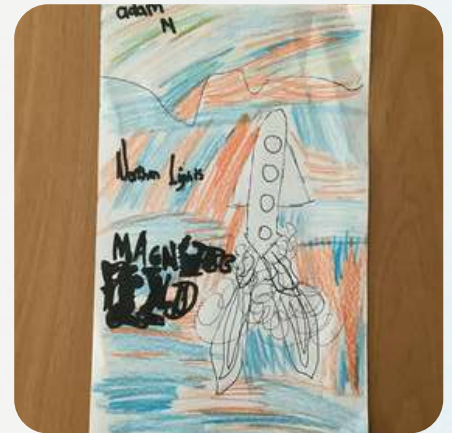
They also practised swinging, learning how to speed up and slow down, and reaching out to catch hold of a partner safely.

Next week, they will continue to develop their technique and begin to examine the forces involved in these movements, linking their exciting flying experience to their Physics learning.

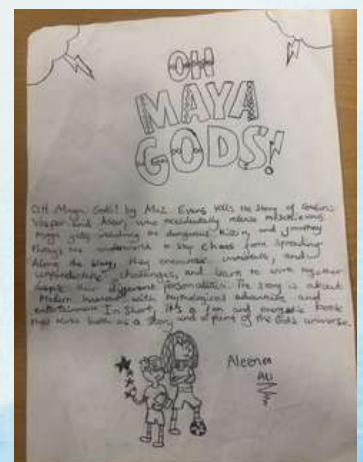
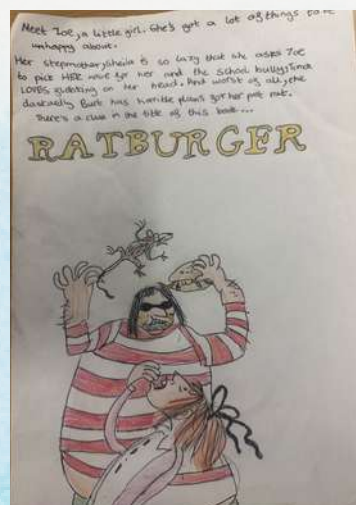


Year 5

This week, 5 Amethyst dived straight back into their Victorians topic, writing fantastic historical stories about their characters escaping. These stories will form the basis of the next few weeks of English learning. We also welcomed poet Paul Lyalls, and began writing a poem called The World is Alive, using personification to describe the world around us. Later in the week, the class took part in an online science workshop about the recent IMAP space shuttle launch and how it measures weather in space. The scientist running the session asked the children to create space-themed posters!



Year 5 Book reviews



Rights Respecting Schools

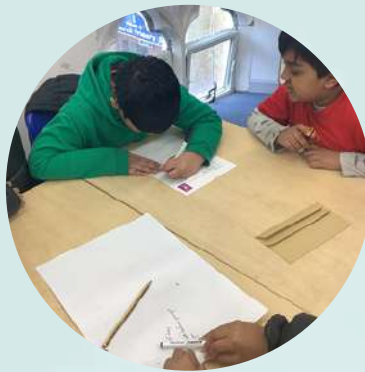
As part of our journey to become a Rights Respecting School, a small group of children attended the first ever Camden Rights Respecting event!

The event was a great success, with 13 primary schools in attendance, and our children represented the school fantastically.

Throughout the day, they worked alongside other schools to discuss and share what we have done to promote the Rights of a Child. They shared how they have learned about children's rights through assemblies, school forum sessions, lessons, and visits from special guests.

First, the group collaborated to recall as many of the Rights of a Child as possible. Later, they discussed Article 31 – the right to rest, play, arts, and culture, sharing how our school supports this and listening to ideas from other schools. During breaks, they also had the chance to meet and make friends with children from across Camden.

Our children were excellent representatives, and we are so proud of them!



Girls Football Tournament



We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 and 6 girls' football team, who finished in second place in the Southern Football League, a fantastic achievement and a true reflection of their dedication and perseverance throughout the season.

The girls showed excellent teamwork, always supporting and encouraging one another both on and off the pitch. There were emotional moments along the way, but what stood out most was their resilience and determination. They lifted each other up, never gave up, and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship.

Well done, girls – you have represented our school with pride!



Reading for Pleasure

Teacher Book Recommendations



Ms Robinson

I recently had the pleasure of reading *The List*, a short story from *Frog and Toad Together* by Arnold Lobel, to my class—and it was met with absolute delight. Even as an adult, it's almost impossible to read these stories without smiling, and I found that my own enjoyment was wonderfully contagious among the children.

This timeless classic celebrates the beauty of friendship in the most gentle and heart-warming way. Through a series of short, engaging stories, children follow Frog and Toad as they share adventures, solve small problems, and support one another through life's everyday ups and downs. Whether flying a kite, baking cookies, or bravely facing their fears, their loyalty and kindness shine through on every page.

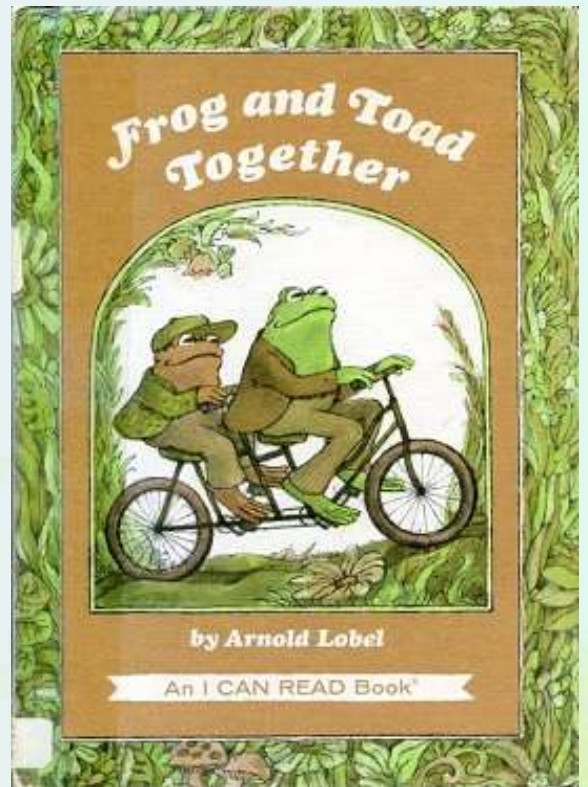
It is a truly wonderful addition to any classroom or home library, and a story that continues to resonate with readers of all ages.

A List

One morning Toad sat in bed.
"I have many things to do," he said.
"I will write them
all down on a list
so that I can remember them."
Toad wrote on a piece of paper:
A List of things to do today
Then he wrote:
Wake up



"I have done that," said Toad,
and he crossed out:
~~Wake up~~



Attendance & Punctuality

Class	1J	2A	2O	3P	4E	4O	5A	5Q	6S	Total
Week 7	94%	91%	97%	96%	98%	98%	96%	96%	98%	97%

Amazing so see so many classes achieving the target of 96% attendance this week.

Keep it up!



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 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

**ARSENAL
DOUBLE
CLUB 25/26**

Our
Camden
libraries

ARSENAL
COMMUNITY

FREE AFTER
SCHOOL
CLUB



FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN AT THE
PANCRAS SQUARE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

EVERY WEDNESDAY 3.45-5PM
DURING TERM TIME

READING AND TABLE TENNIS

TO SIGN UP PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF
STAFF AND COMPLETE A CONSENT FORM

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 a mail



ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Tudridge Street, London
WC1R 0EG

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

MONDAY 2nd	ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 6 Action Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm PARENTS PROGRESS EVENING - no catch up booster
TUESDAY 3rd	Year 4 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm PARENTS PROGRESS EVENING - no cooking or art club
WEDNESDAY 4th	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 year 6 children to dodgeball competition @ Talacre - 3pm to 6.15pm PARENTS PROGRESS EVENING - no football club
THURSDAY 5th	WORLD BOOK DAY! Year 1 to the CLC - 9am to 12.10pm Nursery to The British Museum - 9.30am to 1pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm PARENTS PROGRESS EVENING - no cooking or art club
FRIDAY 6th	5 Amethyst to Francis Crick - 9.15am to 2.15pm Year 4 to The British Museum - 12.30pm to 3pm No football or homework club

