

ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

This afternoon the whole school united to celebrate Spring with our annual 'May Day' celebration.

So far as we know, this is one of the traditional events that has been celebrated every year that Argyle has been open - that is over 125 years!

This is what our children have learnt about May Day this week:

🌸 May Day is celebrated on the 1st of May each year.

🌿 It has been celebrated for hundreds (even thousands!) of years to welcome spring.

🌺 People celebrate May Day to enjoy flowers, sunshine and new life after winter.

🎪 The maypole dance is one of the most famous traditions, where dancers hold ribbons and dance around the pole to make patterns.

👑 Some celebrations include choosing a May Queen, who wears a flower crown.

🌸 In the past, people would collect flowers early in the morning to decorate their homes and villages.

🎭 Morris dancers perform traditional dances wearing bells, so you can hear their movements.

🎵 May Day celebrations often include music, dancing and working together as a group.

👏 May Day has always been about community, teamwork and celebrating together.

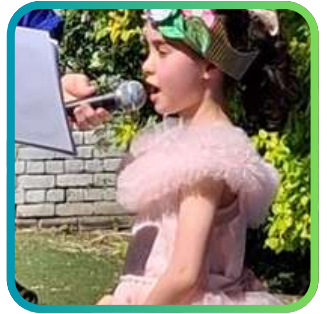
We hope that you enjoyed this special day and that you enjoy Monday's bank Holiday!

J. Wade
Head Teacher



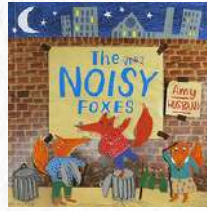


MAY DAY CELEBRATION



NURSERY

This week we read **The Very Noisy Foxes** by Amy Husband.



In the story, the foxes live in a busy city but set off in search of a quieter home in the countryside. Along the way, they meet an owl, a mole, a frog, a badger and a mouse. However, they realise that each habitat is not quite right for them—being too high, too dark, too wet or too quiet—so they eventually decide to return to the noisy city!

This led to some great discussions about how too much noise can feel uncomfortable and the importance of using appropriate voice levels at school. We talked about using quieter “inside voices” and louder “outside voices,” helping the children understand when each is appropriate.

The children also learned that we live on an island called Great Britain and that many wild animals share this environment with us, including foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, moles, deer and squirrels. We explored the meaning of the word “wild” and the children did a fantastic job sorting animals into wild and farm categories.



In phonics, we have been learning the ‘w’ sound and practising how to form the letter correctly.



In maths, we focused on rectangles. The children noticed that the tall city buildings in *The Very Noisy Foxes* were rectangle-shaped, and they used this knowledge to draw their own buildings, adding smaller rectangles for windows and doors.



During Friday’s Stay and Play session, the children worked with their parents to create their own foxes. They drew around their hands to make four legs and a fluffy tail, then added a head with eyes and a nose. There were some wonderful creations!



Finally, a big WELL DONE to our nursery children for all their hard work practising their May Day dance. On Friday, they performed “Rig-a-jig-jig” in front of the whole school and their families. We were incredibly proud of their confidence and bravery in performing for such a large audience.



YEAR 1

Understanding the World – Topic Hook

We had a very exciting start to our new topic, Understanding the World! The children went on a pretend journey with Argyle Airline, travelling across the world. Before the flight, we discussed safety and what to do on a plane. During the journey, the children enjoyed an in-flight movie and some healthy fruit snacks. At the end of our trip, we arrived at our classroom "World Museum," where the children explored a range of objects and learned more about the world around them. It was a fun and imaginative way to begin our learning, and the children had a fantastic time!



The Place

In our first session with The Place, the children explored how to move like water. They used their bodies to imagine they were underwater creatures, flowing, gliding and stretching in different ways. The children really enjoyed being creative and trying out new movements. It was a great start to our sessions, with everyone expressing themselves confidently through movement.



Author Visit – Catherine Barr

We were very lucky to have a visit from author Catherine Barr, who introduced us to her new book about the colours of nature. With the help of illustrator Chaaya Prabhat, the children learned how to draw an endangered peacock tarantula from India. They listened carefully and created some fantastic artwork! It was a fun and inspiring experience, and the children loved meeting a real author.



YEAR 1

Camley street trip

We had a lovely trip to Camley Street Nature Park! The children learned about habitats and microhabitats and explored how animals live in different environments.

They enjoyed a mini beast hunt and were excited to find slugs hiding under a log. We also saw a stag beetle log pile house and learned why it is important for insects. The children spotted a fox's den and talked about where animals live.

Pond dipping was great fun, and the children discovered lots of small creatures living in the water. It was a fun and exciting day, and everyone really enjoyed learning outside!



Rainbow Fish

In our literacy work, the children explored the story of The Rainbow Fish. They thought carefully about how to describe the character using adjectives, phrases, and even similes. The children wrote their ideas onto paper "scales," creating imaginative descriptions to bring Rainbow Fish to life.

Afterwards, they used these decorated scales to design their own colourful fish on an outline. The finished pieces were bright, creative, and full of wonderful descriptive language. It was lovely to see the children combining their writing skills with art to produce such vibrant work!



Hearing and Touch

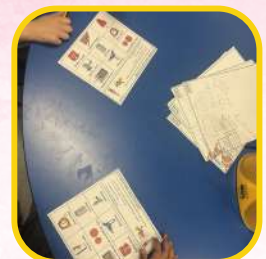
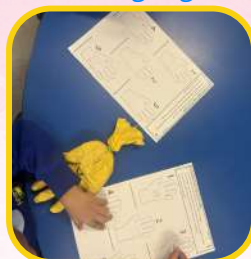
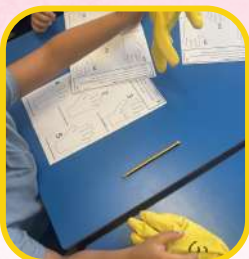
This week, the children have been busy exploring two of their senses: hearing and touch.

During our hearing activities, the children became excellent listeners. They spent time outdoors on the KS1 playground and then inside the classroom, carefully listening to the different sounds around them. We discussed how sounds can change depending on the environment. The children also enjoyed a fun game of sound bingo, where they listened for familiar noises such as a microwave beeping or a door slamming. They did a fantastic job recognising and identifying what they could hear.

In our touch activities, the children explored a variety of materials and used scientific vocabulary to describe how each one felt, using words such as soft, rough, smooth, and bumpy. They also took part in a mystery challenge, placing their hands inside a glove and, without looking, guessing what object was hidden inside.

They showed great curiosity and used their descriptive skills to make thoughtful predictions.

It has been wonderful to see the children engaging their senses while developing their observation and language skills in such fun and interactive ways!



YEAR 2



This week, our Year 2 pupils enjoyed an exciting and educational visit to the Florence Nightingale Museum, helping to deepen their understanding of how Florence Nightingale made a significant impact during her life.



The children were full of enthusiasm throughout the trip. Maryam and Yusra particularly enjoyed dressing up, while Isa shared, **"I liked the treasure trail in the museum."**



After an engaging presentation by "Miss Nightingale" herself, the children eagerly explored the museum, searching for objects linked to her life and work.

Adiyan was thrilled to discover Florence Nightingale's famous lantern, exclaiming, **"Look, this is her famous lantern!"**—the Turkish lamp she used at Scutari Hospital. Frankie and Tejhaun both agreed that, **"We liked the red cross screen and all the baskets of things to play with,"** highlighting just how interactive and engaging the exhibits were.



Following their time in the museum, the children enjoyed lunch outdoors and were excited to spot a statue of another inspiring historical nurse, Mary Seacole. To round off the day, they crossed Westminster Bridge, taking in the beautiful sights along the River Thames.



It was a memorable outing for all, and Zaydaan perfectly summed up the day, saying, **"I love Argyle! When I'm grown up, I want to send my kids here too."**



YEAR 5

This week, the children investigated a variety of fruits and created their own fact files about three or four different types.

They carefully explored key questions such as where the seeds are found, how many seeds each fruit has, and the size, shape, and colour of the seeds. They also discussed whether the seeds are typically eaten.

The children drew detailed diagrams showing where the seeds are located, either inside or on the outside of the fruit, and even collected some seeds ready for planting. It was a hands-on and engaging way to develop their understanding of plants and how they grow!



This week, Year 5 have begun writing an exciting adventure story set in the Amazon rainforest, inspired by *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. The children imagined what it would feel like to glide high above the dense canopy, taking in the breathtaking sights and sounds of the rainforest below. Their ideas were full of vivid description and imagination.

Without warning, the pilot slumped over the controls. Before they knew it, the plane was spiralling downwards...

We look forward to sharing more of their fantastic writing over the coming weeks!



ART & COMIC BOOK CLUB

This week at Comic Club, we began by creating characters. The children thought carefully about their characters' attributes, including superpowers, weaknesses, and the settings where the stories may take place.

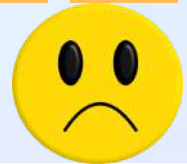


Attendance & Punctuality



Class	1J	2A	2O	3P	4E	4O	5A	5Q	6S	Total
Week 1	95%	91%	92%	94%	95%	93%	94%	96%	98%	94%
Week 2	95%	90%	94%	94%	95%	92%	91%	86%	97%	94%
Week 3	94%	94%	93%	94%	94%	92%	95%	94%	95%	92%

No class achieved the target of 96% attendance this week.



Attendance %	Impact over 1 school year	Impact over 5 school years
100%	0 days missed	0 days missed
96%	8 days missed	¼ year learning lost
90%	19 days missed	½ year learning lost
85%	28 days missed	¾ year learning lost
80%	38 days missed	1 year learning lost
75%	47 days missed	1 ¼ years learning lost

Reporting Absences

Parents should report any absences to the school office by calling 02078374590 before 9.30am.

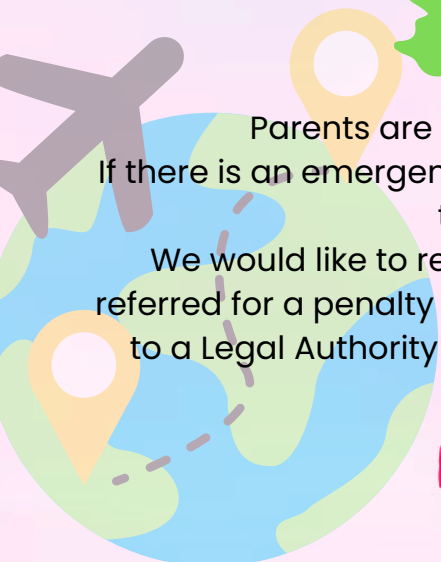
Please do not leave messages on the answering machine.
A member of staff may call you again to discuss the absence.

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

MAY

MONDAY 4th	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL IS CLOSED
TUESDAY 5th	Year 3 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Cooking Club Group 1 - 3.15pm to 4.45pm
WEDNESDAY 6th	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 children from years 3 & 4 to a football competition @ Parliament Hill - 3pm to 6:15pm
THURSDAY 7th	Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm Art/Comic Book Club - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Selected children from years 3 & 4 to La Liga football competition @ Market Road Pitches - 9:30am to 12pm
Friday 8th	Year 5 to Argyle Square Gardens - 11am to 12:30pm Football Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Homework Club with parents - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
Friday 15th	Year 5 to Shakespeare's Globe - 9:15am to 1pm
Monday 18th	Year 6 to Hampstead Heath - 10am to 3pm

Community Notices



Camden Family Learning FREE Course



Join us for a fun, creative 4-week knitting course.

This is a great opportunity to **learn a new skill**, do something to **support your wellbeing** and **connect with other parents**.

It will also be a chance to give back to our local community by carrying out a charity knit!

When? Mondays, 9am-11am (starting 27th April)

Where? Argyle STEAM lab

Refreshments available

Interested? Speak to Sophia (Family Support Worker) or come along on the day! Everyone is welcome.

No creche available.



SUPPORTED BY MAYOR OF LONDON



Learn English fast and for free at Argyle Primary School



LEARN ENGLISH AT ARGYLE

Free classes every Monday and Wednesday 9:30AM - 11:30AM

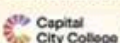


This class is open to all adult students of all levels. You will learn English fast with other students. Pre-school children are welcome but it is the responsibility of the parent to care for them so they do not interrupt class. We will go on trips to local sites and learn everyday vocabulary. We will 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.



You can also get in touch via e-mail: belinda.drake@capitalccg.ac.uk



ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Tonbridge Street, London
WC1H 9EG

Hello Buddy

Building Interfaith Connections

Free Holiday Camp

May 28th & 29th - 11am - 3pm

Location - Castlehaven Community Centre, 23 Castlehaven Rd, Camden Town, London, NW1 8RU



Who is free for games, arts and crafts, football, laughs and balloon fun?

For children aged 7-12. All faiths Welcome!

Places limited - please email Michelle@helloworld.org to apply

