

# ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

I am so relieved to see that 6 classes achieved our attendance target this week. Well done to them!



Our Friday newsletter aims to show parents how exciting learning is at Argyle. Our statutory assessments show the impact of our exciting curriculum. Hard work and interesting learning week in and week out lead to academic success. However poor attendance is the monster that is hindering our success. Currently 19% of our pupils fall into the 'Persistent absent' category. Parents, this is within your control, do not let your children miss out on 10 % of their education!

Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing 100% of children back on 01<sup>st</sup> June.

Every  
School  
Day  
Counts

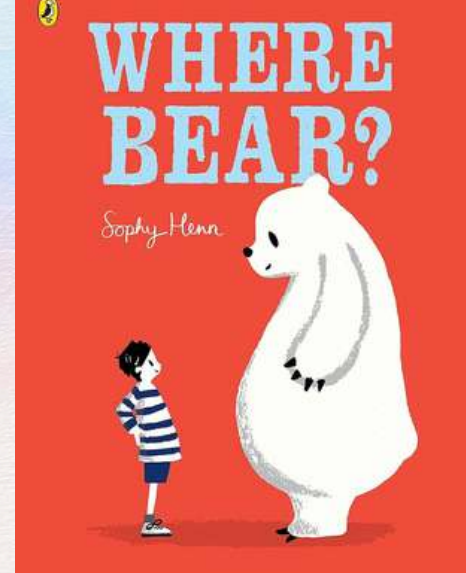
*J. Wade*  
Head Teacher

# NURSERY

This week in Nursery, we read the story *Where Bear?* by Sophy Henn about a boy who lives with a polar bear cub.

As the bear grew too big to live with the boy, he took the bear to the Arctic. The children enjoyed discussing how animals need to live in their own special habitats in order to stay healthy and happy. We also learned about other Arctic animals and created our own story map by acting out the story together.

As part of our reading focus this term, we are exploring stories all about bears. The children enjoyed spending time in the nursery library discovering different bear stories and sharing them with their friends.



In RE, we learned about Humanists and the importance of making good choices. We read the story *The Hare and the Tortoise* and discussed how the hare's poor choices meant he lost the race, even though he was very fast. The children reflected on how making good choices can bring happiness, success and help us to live well!

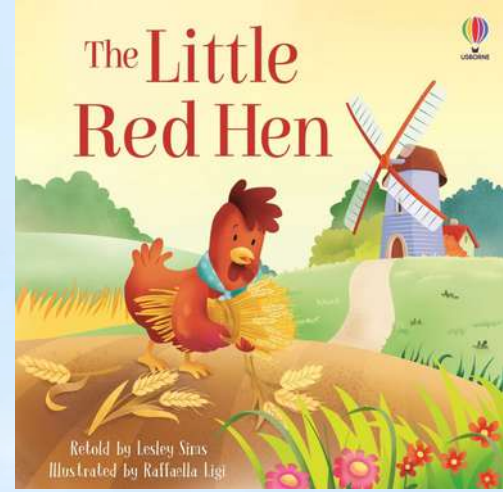
The children continue to make brilliant progress in phonics and writing. This week, we learned that two letters can make one sound and focused on the 'qu' sound. The children practised reading and saying words such as quick, queen and quack.

During Stay and Play, the children had great fun making and playing a "Feed the Polar Bear" game. They cut out fish and fed them to the polar bear while recognising and naming the numbers and shapes written on each fish.

We also enjoyed a special visit from Rosie Fuller from the Foundling Museum. The children explored the clothes worn by Foundling children and learned how the uniforms were made. The workshop included storytelling, games, trying on Foundling uniforms and even sewing their own patch!



# RECEPTION



This week in Reception, we read the story *The Little Red Hen* and continued learning about characters in stories. We discussed how the hen is kind and hard-working, while the other farm animals are lazy and unwilling to help. The children have been learning that many stories include heroes and villains, such as Jack being the hero and the giant being the villain in Jack and the Beanstalk. Together, we decided that the Little Red Hen is the hero of this story. The children also practised writing independent sentences about the story, including: "The hen has seeds", "They did not help" and "They feel sad". One of these sentences has been set as homework, so please encourage your child to practise writing them again over the half-term break.

In PE, we have been studying dance and learning routines based on getting up and getting ready in the morning. We have also been working hard to improve our skipping skills. Please practise skipping with your child over the holidays, as we will continue using this skill in our dance lessons after the break.

In Maths, we have continued learning our number bonds to 5 and begun exploring some number bonds to 10. The children have been using 5-frames and 10-frames to help them recognise and remember number patterns.

On Friday, we played a number bonds game using reversible counters. The children threw the counters into a tray and quickly worked out how many landed red side up and how many landed yellow side up before saying the number sentences aloud, such as "One and four make five" and "Two and three make five".

We were also lucky to enjoy lovely weather during Garden Classroom this week. The children had great fun in the mud kitchen, making bumble bees using leaves and string, using large tools for craft activities, including hammering, and taking part in pond dipping.



# YEAR 1

This week, Year 1 have been planning and writing their own exciting versions of The Rainbow Fish! The children used their imaginations brilliantly to make changes to the characters, settings and parts of the story.

Some children transformed the Rainbow Fish into different sea creatures, magical animals or even superheroes! Others created imaginative new settings such as coral castles, deep oceans, underwater caves and rainbow rivers.

To support their writing, the children practised using key story phrases including: "Once upon a time...", "Suddenly...", "In the deep blue sea...", "The creature felt..." and "At the end of the day...". During their hot write sessions, the children worked hard to use capital letters and full stops, include adjectives to describe characters and settings, sequence their ideas clearly and write independently using their plans.

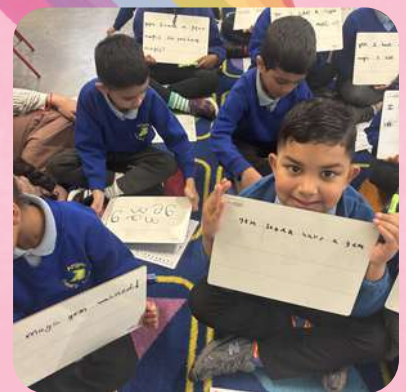
We are incredibly proud of the creativity and enthusiasm the children showed throughout their writing. Why not ask a Year 1 child to tell you about the new character or setting they created in their story?



## Phonics

In phonics this week, the children learned the new phoneme  $g = j$ . We practised reading and spelling words containing this sound, such as gem, giant and magic. The children then used these words to write their own sentences. They worked hard to use finger spaces, hear and write sounds carefully, include capital letters and full stops, and read back their writing to check that it made sense.

We are very proud of the children's confidence and enthusiasm during their phonics writing activities!



## Watching Our Plants Grow

The children have loved checking on our plants each week in the playground and observing the changes as they grow. This week, we spotted tiny green strawberries, purple beetroot stems, pea shoots and runner beans climbing up the trellis, cucumber seedlings getting bigger, spring onion stalks and beautiful pumpkin flowers.

The children have enjoyed discussing what plants need to grow and noticing how different plants change over time. Unfortunately, not all of our plants survived. The lettuce, carrots, radishes and sunflowers did not continue to grow, but this gave us an opportunity to learn that plants need the right conditions and lots of care to thrive.



# YEAR 5

Year 5 recently visited Argyle Square Gardens to help design future improvements for one of our local green spaces. During the visit, the children explored the plants and wildlife currently found in the gardens and discussed ways the area could be developed to benefit both people and nature.

They also looked at the basketball court and considered how it could be adapted to allow for a wider range of sports and activities.

Back at school, the children worked collaboratively in groups to create design ideas that would appeal not only to children their age, but also to older members of the community, including grandparents. Their thoughtful plans also included ways to encourage more wildlife into the area.



Last Friday, Year 5 also enjoyed an exciting trip to the Shakespeare's Globe to learn more about William Shakespeare and the famous theatre before beginning their literacy work after half term.

Throughout the week, the children had been learning about how the theatre was built, audiences in Shakespearean times and the play they will soon be studying, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

The guides were extremely impressed by the children's knowledge. The children already knew that the current Globe is a reconstruction of the original theatre, which famously burned down after a cannon shot set fire to the thatched roof during a performance. They also learned more about the "groundlings" — audience members who stood to watch the plays — and discovered that standing tickets at the Globe are still available today for just £5 for many performances.

The children were especially excited to see preparations underway for a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which gave them a fascinating insight into stage design and production. The visit ended with a workshop in another building, where the children learned more about the play and practised some performance techniques of their own.



# YOUNG WOMEN'S SPORTS DAY

On Tuesday, 15 girls from Years 3 to 6 attended the Young Women's Sports Day at Coram's Fields. The girls were placed into four different groups alongside pupils from other schools, giving them the opportunity to meet new people and work together as a team.

Throughout the day, they took part in a range of exciting activities including the Big Team Challenge, Reggae Aerobics and Bounce, where they danced and exercised on mini trampolines. They also enjoyed a healthy snack-making session, creating their own delicious oat bars.

Despite the wet weather, the girls remained enthusiastic and positive throughout the day. They showed excellent teamwork, encouraged one another and made lots of new friends while enjoying all of the activities on offer.



It was really fun, you get to jump on the mini trampoline  
- Lilo

We got to make friends with other children in different schools  
- Manha

I really loved the Reggae dance workshop  
- Sierra

I loved making the oat bars, especially adding the dark chocolate chips  
- Nevaeh

# ESOL CLASSES



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
- English pronunciation
- Reading
- Writing

We will study what you want to learn!

Visit Belinda in the **Family Learning Centre (FLC)** to register:  
Belinda Drake is an ESOL teacher at Capital City College

Capital City College | [www.capitalcitycollege.ac.uk](http://www.capitalcitycollege.ac.uk) | [belinda.drake@capitalcitycollege.ac.uk](mailto:belinda.drake@capitalcitycollege.ac.uk)

ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Sandridge Street, London  
N16 9JL

Come and join the English lessons for adults at Argyle.

Everyone has a chance to improve their speaking, listening, understanding and writing!

Mondays and Wednesdays 9.30- 11.30 am



# YEAR 6

On Monday, Year 6 enjoyed an exciting trip to Hampstead Heath to take part in an orienteering adventure. After travelling by underground and overground train to Gospel Oak, the children arrived at one of inner London's largest green spaces, ready for a day full of activity and teamwork.

The children began with some free play, enjoying games of rounders and football as well as exploring the open space.

Afterwards, the class split into two groups to take part in orienteering challenges. Using maps and compasses, the teams worked together to locate numbered posts hidden around the heath and record the letters found at each one. The aim was to find 8 posts — and for the first time ever, one team successfully found all 8 letters. Well done to Team A!

Although the rain arrived during lunchtime, everyone stayed dry under the shelter of a bandstand while enjoying their picnic. After lunch, the children continued playing games and exploring the heath. By the end of the day, many pupils had completed well over 10,000 steps!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and especially loved the opportunity to work together outdoors while exploring the beautiful landscape.

"10/10 trip!" –  
Taif

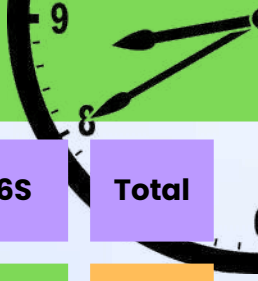


"I really liked it when we were allowed to explore the terrain so we could find the different letters because we could enjoy the fresh air, the incredible views and the landscape." – Mahbuba



"It was fun walking around looking for the coordinates and the posts. Even though my team did not win, it was still very enjoyable." – Arsema

# 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	95%	90%	94%	94%	97%	92%	92%	96%	97%	92%
Week 4	97%	90%	93%	89%	92%	95%	96%	96%	97%	92%
Week 5	90%	94%	95%	93%	96%	96%	94%	97%	100%	95.8
Week 6	98%	95%	98%	93%	97%	96%	95%	97%	96%	94%

Well done to who **1J, 2O, 4E, 4O, 5Q and 6S** 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.

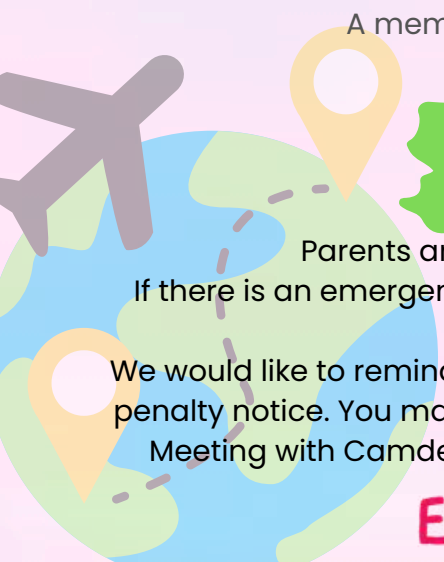
## Exceptional Leave

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

## JUNE

<b>MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL</b> ESOL class in FLC 9:30am to 11:30am Catch up Booster - selected children from years 1 to 4 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm (year 1 finish @ 4pm)
<b>TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup></b>	Year 3 swimming - 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition - 3.15pm to 4.30pm
<b>WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup></b>	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
<b>THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup></b>	Year 2 to Trent Park - 9:45am to 2:30pm Year 3 to Cleopatra Experience - 9:30am to 2pm Nursery GROUP 1 to London Zoo - 9:45am to 1:45pm Art/Comic Book Club - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
<b>FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup></b>	Reception Jet to London Zoo - 9:30am to 2:30pm Football Club, years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm to 4.15pm Homework Club with parents - 3.15pm to 4.15pm
<b>THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup></b>	Reception Jet to Holy Cross Church - 1:15pm to 2:30pm Nursery to Foundling Museum - 1:30pm to 2:45pm
<b>THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup></b>	Year 1 to London Zoo - 9:30am to 3:10pm Nursery GROUP 2 to London Zoo - 9:45am to 1:45pm
<b>THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup></b>	Year 4 Bonsall Camping trip - children to arrive to school for 8am