



COURAGE

Our value for September is Courage



Newsletter

Autumn Term

22nd September 23



Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parent/Carer,

Yesterday, I attended a conference where there was a lot of discussion and concern around primary schools 'narrowing the curriculum' to ensure that there is enough time dedicated to reading, writing and maths. One speaker spoke about how he had visited 15 primary schools so far this year but not yet seen a child in years 1-6 with a paintbrush. He went on to say that he had not heard children singing, or seen them playing musical instruments. This make me reflect on what we offer, every day at Argyle. Children sang together on the first day of term -and have done so regularly since. Art and Music are protected on our weekly timetables. Children will explore instruments and work with musicians from nursery up. Children will dance with professional dancers, play football with specialist coaches and visit theatres and galleries. These activities are embedded in our offer and protected in our curriculum by our commitment to our Argyle Adventure. We believe that music, art, visits to interesting places to learn about history and geography, religions and cultures all adds to our children's knowledge and enhances their learning in reading, writing and maths and this is why we continue to put in the time and effort to bring our Amazing Argyle adventure to life. Read on to find out more about this week's adventurous explorations...

Jemima Wade, Headteacher

Year 6 School Journey to the Isle of Wight

Accommodation by Ayman

The accommodation consisted of wooden chalets. Each had 8 bunk beds, shelves for clothes and two showers and toilets. The rooms were clean and the showers felt nice and hot. The beds were comfortable. It was really good staying in them because the hospitality was amazing. The camp's black cat kept coming into our room – it was both annoying and funny!

Food by Fatiha

My favourite food was a big chunk of halal chicken with corn and potato wedges. The food they served was very good and we all used our manners when they served our food. The always had vegetables, salad and fruit.



Recommendation by Yahiya

I definitely recommend going to the Isle of Wight PGL centre. All the staff treat everyone fairly and they provide cabins and bunkbeds for you. If you only eat halal, they tell you what is halal and what isn't. They also provide you with lots of fun activities. Remember – it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!



See next page for more photos and day by day accounts by our Year 6!

Year 6 School Journey to the Isle of Wight...continued

Monday

Giant Swing by Yamin

My biggest challenge was the giant swing because it was 10 meters above ground and very scary! How it works: you wear a harness and are attached to the swing, the swing is raised by a team of children pulling on a rope. When you reach the height you want to go to, you pull a rope and come flying down. There was a lot of screaming

but most of us loved it!

... and Hussain

I challenged myself by facing my fears. It took lots of courage but in the end it was great fun!

...and Inayah

My favourite activity was the big swing because it was a heart stopper! Also, because we weren't sitting on anything so it felt like I was flying.



Aeroball by Tawsiyah

This is a game where you bounce on a trampoline and have to get a ball through a hole in your opponent's 'cage'. We scored points depending on where we managed to hit the ball.

Campfire by Shirin

On the first night, we sat on logs around a campfire. We sang songs, told stories and listened to music. The fire was hot and glowing but the smoke made my eyes sting! My favourite part was when Yara told a funny joke!

Tuesday

Fencing by Ridi

I liked fencing because you learnt to use a foil [it looks a bit like a sword but has no sharp edges]. You had to wear a mask to protect your face, a long glove on the hand holding the foil and a jacket to protect your vest.



Climbing by Akirah

First we got into harnesses and then we were told what to do and what not to do. After that, they let us climb up a climbing wall in pairs. We all began by going a few meters to check we felt safe and weren't too scared. Then we were free to climb as high as we wanted. Once we got to the very top, we pressed a smiley face to show we had finished! Then we were lowered

back down.



Year 6 School Journey to the Isle of Wight...continued



Archery by Tyler

I liked archery because it was fun hitting the targets and getting used to using a bow and arrow. I got better at aiming after a couple of tries.

Abseiling by Alisha

My favourite part about abseiling was that we could do races and we had to use our legs to walk down a wall. We had to put on a harness and then climb two ladders to get to the top. Then the instructors attached us to a rope so we were safe. Finally we had to climb over the edge and walk down parallel to the ground.



....and Amaan

My biggest challenge was racing Ms Costa in abseiling – sadly, I lost!

Disco by Yara

We entered a room which was dark except for colourful, flashing disco lights. We danced to selected songs. We also played games like musical chairs, musical statues and wink murder. We had a blast partying into the night!



Wednesday

Survivor by Jemimah

The first thing was we voted for two out of three activities. The teacher from PGL explained the rules. We chose to build shelters and learn to light a fire. There were four girls in one group and four boys in the other – the challenge was to build the best shelter using a tarpaulin and wood – ours was shaped like a tent. The

teacher said it was a tie! Afterwards, we all made fire by lighting cotton wool with a firestick. It was quite hard work but in the end we all succeeded.

... and Salma

We went into the woods and sat down in a clearing. We were handed flint and steel tools and were told to make a fire. We had to scrape the fire stick with a piece of metal – sparks flew but it took a while to get the fire going.



Trapeze by Moaz

In trapeze you had to climb up high, putting your feet on metal bars and when you got to the top, people pulled on the rope and you had to jump and try and catch the bar of the trapeze and swing. You were lowered down on the rope attached to the harness. I liked the trapeze because it made me become very brave and it was challenging.



Reception

The children in Reception this week have been reading the story of the 'Owl Babies.' After listening to the story the children had a go at sequencing images from the text and then retelling it orally. They also used playdoh to make the different characters in the story.



This is a nest for the baby owl said Aaliyah



We can make three in different ways.



Nursery

In Nursery this week the children were singing nursery rhymes about fingers and toes as well as reading the book 'Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes.' They talked about the different people in their families and made comparisons with each other. Also this week the children looked at baby pictures of themselves and identified how they have changed over time.



Year 4 - River Thames Fieldwork

On Tuesday and Thursday this week, Year 4 went down to the Thames foreshore alongside the Cutty Sark at Greenwich to carry out fieldwork on the River Thames and its surroundings.



We started off collecting first impressions, sights, sounds and smells, including the overall colour of the water, the direction that the water was moving and any wildlife that we spotted.



The children then split into teams to gather evidence of life along the river. Their collections included shellfish, animal bones, pottery dating back to Victorian or even Tudor times. They even found part of a clay pipe dating back more than 400 years!

Then it was time to find out how clean is our river? The water samples were a little cloudy, but we were surprised to find that the PH of the water was very similar to that of our saliva!

Finally, we got a chance to go down to the water's edge and test the direction of the flow with some dog biscuits! We also helped with the big clean up by collecting some of that plastic that would otherwise harm our wildlife.



Did you know: The level of the water in the River Thames can rise and fall by as much as 7 metres in a day!

Year 3 begin Instrumental Lessons

This term, all of Year 3 are learning basic piano skills in their music lessons with Ms Pryce. They had a fantastic first lesson, showing great enthusiasm, positivity and skill. Children learnt where to find 'C' on the keyboard, how to position their hands and how to read piano notation. We will be continuing weekly class piano lessons for the rest of the term and Ms Pryce is delighted that children have made such a good start.



There are still a couple of spaces available for individual piano lessons with Ms Clea, and we have many drum and guitar spaces available with our new guitar teacher, Mr Simon. Please speak to the office as soon as possible, if you'd like your child to have instrumental lessons.



Weekly drop-In sessions

A massive WELL DONE and THANK YOU to those who turned up to our Coffee-Stitch-Chat session today in the Family Learning Centre. Such a great turn out!

Here are some pictures of the fantastic stitches the members did in the first session. Get your needle and thread read as next week we will be looking at more stitching styles and aim to make a small item like a purse!



Learn English Fast

**Come and Join Us at Argyle!
Every Monday and Wednesday
From 9am –11am**

This class is open to all adults students of all levels. You will have the opportunity to learn English fast at Argyle Primary School with other students.

We will go on trips to local sites and learn everyday vocabulary.

We will concentrate on spoken English, English pronunciation, reading and writing.

We will cover what students want to learn!



Weekly drop-In sessions

Do you have a concern about your child's learning, behaviour or wellbeing?

Ms Mukasa will be available for a parent drop-in session each week on Friday mornings .

Beginning Friday 22nd September
Every Friday morning
9 - 10am
Meet at school office



Attendance & Punctuality

	WK1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6
Rec: Jet	-	90%	95%			
Rec: Topaz	-	94%	90%			
Amber	94%	100%	90%			
Emerald	97%	93%	99%			
Opal	91%	95%	96%			
3 Garnet	96%	100%	98%			
3 Pearl	92%	100%	99%			
4 Onyx	91%	97%	92%			
4 Quartz	99%	100%	96%			
5 Amethyst	100%	100%	95%			
6 Sapphire	97%	97%	99%			
Total	95%	97%	95%			
Camden	-	93%				

Congratulations to Amber, 3 Garnet, 3 Pearl, 4 Quartz and 5 Amethyst for reaching 100% attendance this week. Well done to Amber, 4 Onyx and 6 Sapphire who have achieved at least 96% this week.

Every School Day Counts



Don't let your child miss out - every school day counts

Attending regularly is vital for your child's happiness and success in school.

We know that pupils with good school attendance - of 95% or more - are far more likely to achieve the expected level in their primary school tests at age 11 and go onto gain good passes in their GCSEs at age 16.

Camden Learning

Our school was given a special mention by Camden's Pupil Attending Service for last week's attendance being above the National Average of 95% and above the Camden average of 93%.



Well done to you all. Let's keep this momentum going.

Dates for your diary

All entries on the calendar have been sent via ParentHub, please check your child's class channel for more information.

September 2023

Monday 25th	Event: After School Clubs begin
Tuesday 26th	Trip: Selected pupils from Years 5& 6 attend Netball League from 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Thursday 28th	Trip: Year 6 visit Oxford University from 9am - 3pm
Friday 29th	Event: Last day of the Travelling Book Fair in the dining hall after from 3.10pm Trip: Year 3 visit Chiltern Air Museum

October 2023

Monday 2nd	Black History Month - Windrush Week Event: Catch-up Clubs begins (by invitation only)
Tuesday 3rd	Trip: Selected pupils from Years 5& 6 attend Netball League from 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Wednesday 4th	Trip: Year 5 visit The Houses of Parliament
Thursday 5th	Event: Reception Phonics workshop for Parents from 9am - 9.30am