



# Our value for December is Peace



## Newsletter

Autumn Term  
8th December 23



### Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parent/Carer,

I have been sharing aspects of Camden's Education Strategy 'Building Back Stronger' <https://camdenlearning.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Camden-Learning-Education-Strategy-Executive-Summary-Digital.pdf> with you over the past few weeks and this week have been thinking a little about the strand 'Harnessing technology to improve learning, schools and our local system'. Technology has undoubtedly become an important part of our lives in schools and we know that many children are growing up with skills which can quickly overtake those of adults. This week, for example our Year 5 children wowed the adults working with them as they used technology to create musical compositions that will be used in a future performance. Our pupils from Years 2, 3 and 4 enjoyed using technology at a 'silent disco' and groups of readers in Years 3 and 5 continued their online reading projects with Bookmark volunteers. Argyle is also deeply involved in Camden's STEAM partnership - a partnership that ensures that local tech companies invest in the education of our children and inform our pupils about the possibilities open to them in the future - not just in the wider world but actually here, on our doorstep in Kings Cross.

**Jemima Wade, Headteacher**

### 5 Amethyst visit The Camden Learning Centre (CLC)

On Friday 1st December, 5 Amethyst visited the CLC as part of a project with Camden music and the Royal Academy of Music. They learnt how to use Logic Pro to compose music for Recorder Quartets.

They worked extremely hard and their creations are impressive! Parents - to listen to your child's composition, please click the link posted on Google Classroom.

Three students from the Royal Academy of Music were at the CLC to support our work. They have now taken the compositions to be prepared for a performance on Friday March 1st...which 5 Amethyst will be able to attend!



At the beginning, our music didn't sound great but at the end, it sounded really professional.- **Yakub Y**



We wrote parts for 4 types of recorder - the descant, the tenor, the treble and the bass. - **Aleena**

My favourite part of working at the CLC was making our own music because we went back and forth, listening and then changing it, to see if we liked it or not. - **Vanessa**



# Nursery's Super Busy Week

We've had a super busy week in nursery with a school trip, a visit from the Foundling Museum and an exciting teddy bear themed stay & play session on Friday!

On Monday we were lucky enough to be able to go to the Aurora Orchestra's performance of 'Walking with Dinosaurs', where the children learnt how to move like dinosaurs and sang songs all about dinosaurs. This was all set to the music of



Beethoven. The nursery team are very grateful to our lovely parents, many of whom were able to volunteer to come along and help out on the trip.

During this week, the children learnt all about police officers through our book: 'I'm afraid your teddy is in trouble today', by Jancee Dunn. We had great fun dressing up in uniform and we used our magnifying glasses and notebooks to look for evidence of mischief all around the nursery. In phonics we practised saying the 'p' sound to talk about the police and played 'what's in the box?' to find other words that begin with 'P'.

In maths we learnt about number 6 by counting out 6 objects, finding number 6 on a number line and trying to roll 6 on the dice.

The Foundling Museum came into nursery on Thursday to do a workshop with the children all about family. We played pass-the-parcel and talked about the people who are important to us. Then the children made their own pass the parcel presents.

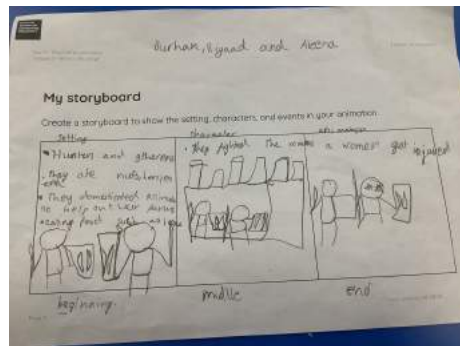
And finally, on Friday the children came in with their parents to find that the teddy from our book had been causing trouble in our nursery! There was lots of mess everywhere! The children dressed as police officers and worked together with their parents to look at the evidence and try and piece together what had happened. They worked out that it was teddy, together with lots of his teddy friends, that had caused the mess. The children even managed to work out where the teddies were hiding! Once they had been found, the teddies were very sorry about what they had done and each child got to take a teddy home with them. We can't wait to hear the stories about what the mischievous teddies get up to in the children's homes! The nursery team would like to say a heart-felt

'Thank You!' to 'Kids Talk', Camden, for working with us to deliver the stay & play sessions during this half term, and also to Build-A-Bear for their generous donation of the teddy bears to Argyle, which made this, teddy-bear-themed, stay & play session possible.



# ICT @ Argyle

This half term, Year 3 pupils have been learning to use Stop Frame Animation as part of their Stone Age topic. The children have been using a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation. Once the children had mastered the skill, they created a story animation set in the Stone Age.



## Argyle at Coram Field's Silent Disco

Thank you to Naz and Olivia for welcoming our pupils to Coram's Fields for their annual fantastic silent disco. The children had lots of fun using the technology to share their dance moves, while keeping fit. They twirled, bounced and 'waved their hands like just don't care'...but they did! 'This is so much fun!' was the comment heard repeatedly.



The children and staff really appreciated it!

Look everyone's smiling and laughing! - **Marharyta**



They played the World Cup song and it made me so happy to dance and sing with my friends! - **Ibrahim**



The songs were great and I loved dancing with all my friends and singing at the top of our lungs! - **Dahlia**

I love the silent disco and doing our routines we have been learning to some of the songs that came on. - **Nafiza**



# KS1 visit Arsenal hub

Last week on Friday, KS1 went to The Arsenal Hub. They took part in three activities; a tour of the stadium, including the press conference room, changing room and the chance to practice playing; and a workshop with the author Catherine Emmett for the launch of 'Sammy Striker'. She explained to the children how she gets her story published into a book from first draft to editing to illustration to publishing. With the children she created a good character using children's ideas and a villain. Adults then acted out the story before finally children made their own characters. Thank you Arsenal in the Community.



## 6 Sapphire learn about Evolution

As part of their science topic on evolution, 6 Sapphire learnt that Charles Darwin noticed that the finches (a species of bird) on different islands in the Galapagos all had different beaks. He realised that they had adapted so that they could eat the different food found on each island. 6 Sapphire carried out an investigation using a variety of 'beaks' (scissors, tweezers, spoons and clothes pegs) to see how good they were at picking up different types of food. It was easy to see from the results that some 'beaks' were better shaped for picking up 'worms' or 'nuts' than others. The experiment helped us to see that animals and plants survive by adapting to their environment.



# Year 4's exciting week

On Thursday year 4 welcomed parents into the classroom to share some of the ways that we teach maths. The children have been busy working on multiplication and division and so we looked at how we use the counting stick to embed number facts, gradually taking away the cards that we use as prompts. We also looked at how that knowledge can be then applied to division, multiplying larger numbers and even fractions, using very little equipment.

The children then shared the ways that they visualise multiplication and division by drawing a problem, drawing bar models and using these to find fact families.

Finally, we had a few minutes to enjoy a game of times table bingo!



## History

This week Year 4 have used drama to explore the years immediately after the Roman invasion of Britain in AD43 and the rebellion led by Queen Boudica of Iceni.

First they acted as members of the Senate to advise Emperor Claudius about whether he should invade a cold, rainy, troublesome country like Britain, using hot-seating and conscience ally.

Then they acted as Celtic warriors spying on a Roman Centurion and then interrogating him about the training of the Roman Legions, their methods in battle such as the 'testudo' in which they made an impenetrable tortoise shell around a group of soldiers using their shields, and also finding out about their armour and weapons.

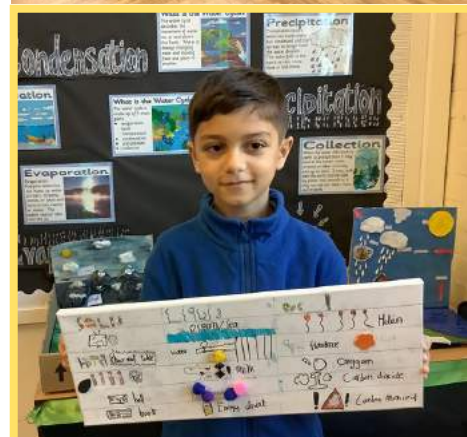
Finally they made a living graph of the key moments in Boudica's life looking at not only the order of events but also how positive or negative they would have been for the Queen of the Iceni tribe.

**Tala: How do you prepare for fights?**

**Mao: How much skill and training do you need?**

**Taif: What materials did you use to make your shield?**

**Fatema: what is the strongest metal that you use?**



A beautiful project sorting examples of solids, liquids and gases from Rayyan, 4 Onyx

# Bookcase Christmas Tree Photoshoot

Last week Friday, a selection of pupils were chosen to be involved with the Coram Beanstalk photoshoot at the Bookcase Christmas Tree in St Pancras Station. This photoshoot was to encourage more skilled adults to become reading volunteers. Click the link to read more about the trip.

<https://www.beanstalkcharity.org.uk/news/somewhere-special-to-read-for-camden-school-children-at-st-pancras>

Many students are needing support in reading, not just to recognise words but comprehend what they are reading. If you think that you have the skill and time to help a child, visit <https://www.beanstalkcharity.org.uk/Pages/Category/about-volunteering> for more information



## Year 1 Parents' Open Classroom

On Tuesday morning, Year 1 classes were open for parents to come along and join in with a Maths lesson.

The children were taught how to use the part, whole model and cubes to subtract and find and solve missing number problems. Parents were given a better understanding of how they can help their children with it.



## Cooking After School Club

For the last week of cooking club we decided to get in the Christmas spirit and make some Christmas sugar cookies. The children enjoyed making the dough, getting stuck in with their hands and cutting out their gingerbread men. Lastly they used icing and sprinkles to decorate their cookies.

The children have learnt key skills of being safe in the kitchen and the importance of hygiene.

Cooking club will be back in the Spring Term, if you would like your child to join remember to sign up when the clubs list is released.



# Reception

This week the children in Reception have continued to learn the story of the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff.' As well as learning to recite the story, they have created their own story maps to help them identify the key parts of the story including the beginning, the problem, the resolution and the ending. Through doing this, the children were then able to change aspects of the story and created their own versions. You can help your child to understand story telling further by identifying these aspects in stories that you read together. After exploring a range of instruments and the sounds that they make, the children chose the ones that they felt would best represent the sound of the Billy goats 'trip-trapping' along the bridge. They practised playing these instruments in a range of ways such as loudly and quietly. The children had the wonderful opportunity to see a performance of Far Far Away, Beethoven and the Dinosaurs. It was an excellent experience and had the children singing the songs the whole way back to school! Thank you to all the adults who came on the trip!



Our Christmas tree is beautiful and nice. - **Genesis**



I liked shaking the shakers. - **Yahya**

We worked together to make a Christmas tree. - **Isa**



# Family Learning Celebration

On Thursday we celebrated the end of the Family Learning course. Parents and carers presented a recap of what they learned throughout the 10 weeks and how they will be implementing the tips/ techniques and activities at home with their children. The growth in confidence we have seen from our learners has been a pleasure to watch and will be beneficial for your children's learning and development.

Thank you to all the parents/carers for your commitment and dedication to joining every week. It has been lovely to see so many parents and carers engaged in learning activities and keen to learn about how to help their child.

A **MASSIVE THANK YOU** to all the parents/carers who cooked and bought yummy food, snacks, drinks and desserts for the party!



What have you learned about the following?

- Reading
- Story telling
- Trip (Out & about in the local area)
- Physical development
- Behaviour
- Rhymes
- Boundaries
- Colours

Explain the... to support your child.

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# Attendance & Punctuality

	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13
Rec: Jet	93%	96%	95%	91%	92%	93%	79%
Rec: Topaz	82%	90%	94%	92%	89%	87%	81%
Amber	92%	96%	96%	93%	95%	92%	93%
Emerald	99%	96%	97%	89%	94%	94%	92%
Opal	94%	97%	95%	90%	94%	85%	89%
3 Garnet	91%	98%	98%	95%	92%	95%	87%
3 Pearl	94%	96%	96%	97%	96%	97%	93%
4 Onyx	98%	99%	97%	94%	98%	95%	95%
4 Quartz	98%	97%	98%	100%	96%	97%	95%
5 Amethyst	99%	95%	98%	98%	95%	96%	91%
6 Sapphire	93%	96%	97%	98%	98%	96%	88%
Total	94%	96%	96%	94%	94%	93%	89%
Camden	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	94%	

This week we have experienced high levels of absence due to illness. This is our first week this term that our school will not be in the Camden top 10 school for good attendance. Since the beginning of term our school has consistently place fifth or sixth place and we are hoping to shatter that ceiling and push for top 3 before the end of this term but we can only do this if your child attends school everyday.



## Dates for your diary

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

### December 2023

Monday 11th	<b>Event:</b> Nasal Flu Vaccinations for consented children <b>Trip:</b> Selected children from KS1 visit Greatcroft from 12.30pm - 1.30
Tuesday 12th	<b>Event:</b> Year 5 & Year 6 Maths Open Classroom 8.55am - 9.30am <b>Trip:</b> Reception visit Holy Cross Church <b>Trip:</b> Selected children from Years 5 & 6 visit Somers Town Sports Centre
Wednesday 13th	<b>Trip:</b> Selected children from Years 3 & 4 visit Talacre Sports Centre <b>Trip:</b> Selected children from KS1 visit Euston Station from 11am
Thursday 14th	<b>Event:</b> Year 3 Maths Open Classroom 8.55am - 9.30am <b>(NEW DATE)</b>
Friday 15th	<b>Event:</b> Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff (Staff wear your Christmas jumpers!)
Monday 18th	<b>Trip:</b> Year 3 visit The Place to watch Pirates Winter performance
Wednesday 20th	<b>Event:</b> Nativity for invited parents and special guests at 9.30am—10.30am <b>Event:</b> Class Christmas Parties (Please read message in Parenthub)
Thursday 21st	<b>Last Day of Term - Pupils finish at 1.45pm.</b>

**Christmas Holidays from Friday 22nd December - Friday 5 January 2024**

**January 2024**

**Tuesday 9th Pupils return to school at 8.40am.**