



West Ham Church School

With God all things are possible

Newsletter
Spring 1
Week 4



A note from the headteacher

For the last three years, we have as a school worked very hard to improve the quality of teaching and learning in reading. We invested heavily in training for teachers, new fiction books that reflected our diversity and bought a new reading scheme. We became an Associate school for the Centre of Literacy in Primary Education in recognition for our text based approach to English. We have also been using Storytime phonics which uses engaging books to teach phonics and comprehension. We have seen very pleasing improvements in how well children are reading as a result.

So, I would now like to share with you that our focus has turned to improving **maths and writing skills** across the school. Our assessments have shown children have many gaps in their maths knowledge and understanding which we mostly attribute to lost learning over the last couple of years. We held maths workshops this week to share with parents how maths is taught and how children learn. We were hoping to help parents to support their children with maths home learning. We will be running these workshops again during an open day on Friday 10th February. Parents will be invited to come into school to participate in our STEM Day (science and maths) with their children. Further information to follow.

Kind regards, Mrs. James

School Vision

Our Vision is to enable children, with God's guidance, to know and appreciate the **wonder** of God's creation, to live in **harmony**, embracing differences, to always act with **compassion** inspired by the example of Jesus, and to have the **strength** to follow their dreams and achieve their goals.

Prayer Space

*A prayer from the team at
All Saints Church*

Dear God,

Thank you for always being there for us.

Help us to remember that when we feel like giving up you are there to help us when we ask.

Allow us to see the good things that can happen when we just keep going.

Amen.

Values

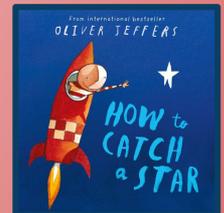
Our school value this term is

Perseverance

Early Years Foundation Stage

This week:

The children in Reception have enjoyed using non-fiction books to find out all about penguins. They thought of their own questions which they wanted to research the answers to, and explored different habitats. The children enjoyed matching the animals to different countries in the world. The Nursery children have continued to celebrate Lunar New Year by making lanterns and rabbit templates. In RE we have been thinking about friendship and looking inside our glittery, heart shaped box for special gifts.



Next week:

Following our theme of “What Happens at Night Time?” we will explore space, looking at Van Gogh’s artwork and starting our new story Oliver Jeffers story ‘How to Catch a Star’. Little Owls will think about nocturnal animals, using the story Owl Babies.

Key Stage 1

This week:

Year 1 began to look at estimation within our number unit, focusing on how to use a ruler as a tool for measurement. If you have a ruler at home, please encourage your child to consolidate their knowledge by measuring objects around the home. Year 2 began their new book ‘Between Tick and Tock’ by exploring rhythm and onomatopoeia words. In art we looked at notable portraiture artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Frida Kahlo and were inspired to create our own art.



Next week:

Year 1, we will be moving onto the White Rose Maths scheme of work, giving the children the opportunity to evidence their learning within a mastery approach. Our focus on phonics continues this term, and we will be sending home specific sounds for your child to practise. If you need any resources, or help with the pronunciations, please ask class teachers for guidance.



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KS2

Weekly News Page
Assistant Head: Miss Jukes

Lower Key Stage 2

This week:

We have had lots of fantastic discussions around our Amazon Rainforest topic this week. In English, we created alternative endings for our class text 'The Great Kapok Tree'. The children have really improved their writing and shown that they have the capability to be really creative. Congratulations to the Foxes for winning their 'Rock Battle' again. Undefeated champions!



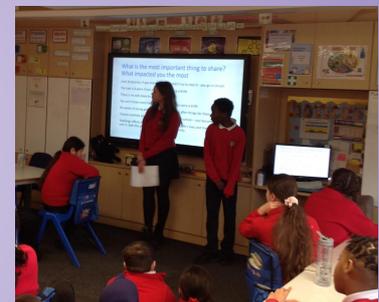
Next week:

We will be visiting the British Museum as part of our learning on 'Maya Civilisations'. We will have a session with a historian to help us better understand life in the Mayan times.

Upper Key Stage 2

This week:

We are nearly at the end of The Adventures of Odysseus and are preparing for our final piece of writing. We have also been busy learning about the solar system, and imagining what it would be like to visit Athens. Some of the Year 6 pupils led an assembly to share their experiences of the 'What's the Point?' workshop, illustrating the importance of being a positive role model at school and in society. Some of the girls from UKS2 also attended a handball competition at Langdon School, showing harmony and strength throughout.



Next week:

We are looking forward to our visit to the theatre to watch 'Matilda' on Wednesday! Please arrive at school at 11:45am.

Parents, we appreciate your contributions to help us fund this visit - if you haven't done so already, please go onto Schoolmoney and pay, thank you.





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Attendance

Congratulations! The class with the highest attendance across the school last week was...



Kingfishers



Celebration Page

On this page, we celebrate the children's achievements in and out of school, including

- ❖ good behaviour
- ❖ excellent attitude to learning
- ❖ progress
- ❖ high quality work
- ❖ awards



Headteacher's Awards

Wonder (UKS2): Jack, for completing extra research in science to complete the 'fruit planet' challenge

Harmony (EYFS): Ayaan, for working alongside others and including them in his daily activities.

Compassion (KS1): Deysi, for always looking out for others and taking care of them if they are in need of a friend.

Strength (LKS2): Ibrahim, for being determined to achieve his best when taking part in writing activities.

Mathletics

Please encourage your children to go onto Mathletics at home to support their learning.

Gold:

Silver: Iasmina (Y5) Jude (Y2) Timeea (Y2)

Jahaziel (Y2) Ibrahim (Y3) Aysha (Y3)

Bronze: Rayansh (Y2) Cristiano (Y6) Jadon (Y4)



Little Owls (Nursery): Alice I, for her confidence when exploring new activities.

Dragonflies (Reception): Albert for working hard on his writing when labeling a penguin.

Ladybirds (Reception & Y1): George for his excellent writing about Neil Armstrong.

Butterflies (Y1): Alexia for her strength and positivity when completing morning tasks.

Hedgehogs (Y2): Yaryna for her independent maths work.

Squirrels (Y2): Timeea, for sharing her thoughts and opinions during lessons.

Otters (Y3): Gita for persevering with her handwriting.

Badgers (Y3&4): Raihan, for working really well with other children in the class.

Foxes (Y4): Denneyah, for her efforts in maths.

Swallows (Y5): Tohfa for being an exceptional role model and trying her hardest in all areas.

Eagles (Y5&6): Iasmina, for her excellent attitude to learning and progress in class.

Kingfishers (Y6): Liliyan, for working hard on her maths and challenging herself in lessons.



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WHCS Song Sheet

Don't Worry, Be Happy

Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.

Ain't got no cash, ain't got no style

Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.

Ain't got no girl to make you smile

Don't worry, be happy

Here's a little song I wrote

You might want to sing it note for note

Cos when you worry, your face will frown

Don't worry, be happy

And that will bring everybody down

In every life we have some trouble

So don't worry, be happy

But when you worry you make it double

Don't worry, be happy

Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.

Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.

Ooh, ooh, ooh,

Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.

Don't worry, be happy

Don't worry, be happy