

## Colindale Primary School Newsletter

### Issue 11: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

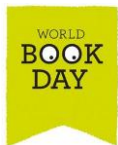
Dear Families,

Spring is here! Our school has been buzzing with activity and joy these past two weeks.

The school was awash with the colour red today, as we marked Red Nose Day. The day started with a lovely assembly and quickly turned sillier and sillier as the day went on. (More of this in the next newsletter) Red Nose Day brought laughter and compassion to our school, raising awareness and funds for important causes. Seeing our pupils engage in acts of kindness and generosity filled us with pride and gratitude.



This week was Science week, which got everyone buzzing with experiments and discoveries. Each year group held parent workshops in classrooms. Curiosity was ignited and imaginations were sparked. Witnessing their enthusiasm was very inspiring. Thank you to those parents who were able to make it.



World Book Day, last week, was full of fun as we dressed up as favourite book characters and shared our favourite stories. More on this in this newsletter.

There have also been some very exciting trips taking place and planned for this term. School trips provide invaluable opportunities for our pupils to explore, learn, and grow beyond the classroom walls. All our educational visits take careful planning to ensure they fit and enrich our curriculum, so that your children experience hands-on learning, cultural exposure, reinforcement of learning and memorable experiences.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, supportive families, and enthusiastic students for making them all possible. Together, we continue to create a vibrant and nurturing learning environment where every child can thrive.

I would also like to extend my warmest wishes to all our families who are observing the holy month of Ramadan. It is a time of fasting, prayer, and reflection, and it holds great significance for our Muslim community. At Colindale we support all Muslim pupils in years 4-6 to fast, to mark Ramadan, whose parents have given them permission to do so. A permission form must be completed online using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/huAZUOLr5H>. If any parents / carers would like to discuss this, then my door is always open.

May this Ramadan bring you and you loved ones peace, joy, and spiritual fulfilment.

Warm regards

Mrs Jane Palmer  
Headteacher



## **Attendance awards for 04.03.24 – 15.03.24**

Every week we award classes with the highest attendance one of our very special trophy's- **Bronze, Silver, Gold or Super Gold. These classes were awarded a trophy this month:**



Super Gold (100% - this means every child in every day) –



Gold (highest attendance, but below 100%)- **4P, 6R**



Silver (second highest attendance)- **4H, 2A**



Bronze (3<sup>rd</sup> highest attendance) – **2A, 4G (twice!)**

## **Well done to all the winners!**

### Attendance

**A fixed penalty of £80 for each parent for each child will be issued should there be unauthorised absences, so please remember :**

- Children should attend school to the last day of term and return on the first day of a new term.
- Any absences before or after a holiday or school day closure (e.g. INSET Day—teacher training) will be recorded as unauthorised.
- Time off for travelling cannot be authorised.
- Time off to extend a holiday cannot be authorised.
- Time off to visit relatives as part of a long holiday cannot be authorised.

### Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

### Healthy Early Years London Award

We are delighted to announce that the school has achieved a Bronze Award from Healthy Early Years London. This is a programme supported by the Mayor of London and London Borough of Barnet, which recognises the school's efforts in promoting Health, Wellbeing and Education. Thank you Mrs Walsh for all your hard work entering the school into the Award programme and ensuring we were successful.

MAYOR OF LONDON'S



## Rights Respecting at Colindale

### SPOTLIGHT

#### A Definition a Newsletter - UNICEF RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL at Colindale

#### Class Charter

A charter in a Rights Respecting School is an agreement developed together with those involved including Duty Bearers to identify relevant rights and how children will respect those rights and adults will respect, protect and promote rights.

At Colindale, we have linked the class charters with our class rules. Each child knows that in order for everyone to be able to have their rights, they need to follow the rules. This stops your child from having their rights limited by the actions of others.

Have you seen your child's class charter? Have a look the next time you are in their classroom.

### **BIG WALK and WHEEL Challenge: 11.3.24-22.3.24**



Colindale Primary School celebrates 15 years of the UK's biggest active travel challenge. We will be taking part in the UK's biggest inter-school active travel challenge. Taking place **11-22 March 2024**, the Sustrans **Big Walk and Wheel** inspires pupils to make active and sustainable journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world.

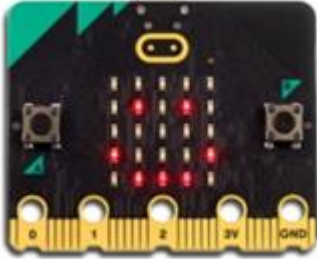
The event sees schools compete each day to make the most journeys by walking, wheeling, scooting, and cycling to school. The challenge is seeing its 15th anniversary and is celebrating the success enjoyed across the years for pupils, parents, and schools.

Not only does the event help reduce pollution around the school gates but, in recent years, it has helped parents to save £1.6million in petrol costs during the fortnight. Just under 2.7million active journeys to 1,862 participating schools took place during the 2023 challenge, saving an estimated 1,890 tonnes of CO2 emissions if the journeys logged had otherwise been made by car.

Teachers also find pupils who walk, wheel, scoot or cycle to school arrive more relaxed, alert, and ready to start the day than those who travel by car. Please encourage your children to take part in the challenge and let's all enjoy the benefits of it. Thank you.

*Mrs Grigoriadou-PSHE, Healthy Schools and Eco Lead*

## Coding Club Explores Microbits!



### What is a Microbit?

It's a small, programmable computer designed to make coding fun and easy for children. It has lights, buttons, sensors, and lots of potential for creative projects!

Over seven weeks, our students explored the Microbit's possibilities, creating their own music players, sound level meters, sleep trackers, and more. They also had the chance to design their own unique coding projects.



Here's what some of our programmers had to say:

"I had so much fun coding, as we made loads of games such as: rock paper scissors, our own pet and a sleep tracker."

-Alicia 6N

"Coding was incredible as I learned loads of new things and the Microbit was so fun to use and program. We get to keep the Microbit and learn more about how to code. Mr Najjar was a fantastic teacher."

-Saara 6N

"I liked how we were shown how to do different things on our Microbit like making a sleep tracker. I also liked that if we didn't want to do stuff with our Microbit, we were allowed to do other stuff like Purple Mash."

– Isabella 5T

Even though our afterschool Coding Club sessions have ended for now, the enthusiasm continues. Children are still coming during their lunch breaks to keep learning and experimenting with code. We're looking forward to inviting even more children to join us in the Summer Term.

Thank you to Mr Najjar for giving up his time to run the club both during his lunch break and after school.

## Swim Team News

On March 11th Colindale Primary School competed against fifteen other schools in the Barnet Primary School Swimming Championship at Barnet Copthall. The Colindale swim team consisted of twelve swimmers: six boys and six girls. Each of the children had an individual race and a leg in a team relay.

Mr Fernandes, our swimming teacher and team coach said:

“I would firstly like to express how proud I was of the children; they all swam amazingly well and professionally represented Colindale in the water as well as their behaviour and team spirit on the poolside. As a result of all their hard work and teamwork Colindale placed 6th out of sixteen schools, a great result to be very proud of!”

Well done to the team for all their hard work: Diana (4H), David (4H), Gabriella (4H), Ali (4H), Selina (4H), Muhammad (4G), Lavinia (5J), Callan (5J), Matei (5m), Isabella (5T), Jia Li (5T), Lucus (6B).

Mr Fernandes trained the swim team most mornings before school in preparation for the event and we would like to thank him for his dedication, hard work, and belief in our amazing swimmers.



## World Book Day 2024

Our World Book Day celebration was a roaring success! Colindale pupils (and staff!) had a blast dressing up as their favourite characters and sharing stories. It was particularly heart-warming to see the older pupils in KS2 visit KS1 and EYFS classrooms for buddy reading. It was amazing to see everyone so excited about books and reading. Thanks to all who made it such a special day!



The children in Nursery had much fun on World Book Day. Some parents kindly stayed to read stories and make costumes with the children. Year 3 children also visited and shared their books with us. Thank you for making it a great day.



So much thought and effort went into everyone's outfits – they were some very creative interpretations of book characters and we all loved guessing the character and book.

The teachers looked quite good too!

Buddy reading was also a success.





**Don't forget to use your World Book Day token before it runs out on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March.**

You can redeem your book token at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookshop
- Asda
- Sainsburys
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith

WORLD BOOK DAY 7 MARCH 2024

**WORLD BOOK DAY 2024 BOOKS AVAILABLE NOW!**

**BOOK TOKEN**

WHICH BOOK WILL YOU CHOOSE?

SPONSORED BY NATIONAL BOOK TOKENS

Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading

World Book Day® is a charity sponsored by National Book Tokens.



## Eco Schools - Recipe of the month

(the recipe is adopted by Proveg)



### Ingredients

#### Crust ingredients

100 g	<b>all-purpose flour</b>
1 tsp.	<b>cinnamon</b>
0.25 tsp.	<b>nutmeg</b>

1 pinch	<b>salt</b>
3 tsp.	<b>rice malt syrup</b>
4 tbsp.	<b>coconut oil</b> melted

#### Filling ingredients

590 ml	<b>soya milk</b>
3-4 tbsp.	<b>rice malt syrup</b>
1 tsp.	<b>vanilla extract</b>

4 tsp.	<b>cornstarch</b>
	<b>cinnamon</b>

## Instructions

#### Method for the crust

- Preheat oven to 180 degrees.
- Sift the flour into a large mixing bowl. Add the cinnamon, nutmeg and salt.
- Add the rice malt syrup and melted coconut oil and start to mix together.
- Once the ingredients have combined, use your hands to crumble the mixture together in between your fingers.
- Once fully combined, add to a pie dish greased with coconut oil. Press the mixture firmly and evenly around the pie dish, pressing the mixture up the sides to create an even crust around the whole dish.
- Poke a few holes into the crust with a thin skewer and pop the dish into the oven.
- Bake for 20 minutes at 180 degrees. Once golden brown, remove and set aside to cool.

#### Method for the filling

- In a medium pot, bring 350ml of soya milk to the boil. Remove from the heat and add the vanilla extract and rice malt syrup. Stir thoroughly.
- In a separate small bowl, whisk the arrowroot powder together with 240 ml of soya milk until smooth and without any lumps.
- Add this mixture to the pot and set on a low heat. Stir until it thickens. This may take around 3-5 minutes, but make sure to do this on a low heat as corn flour can be quite sensitive.
- Once thickened, remove from the heat and allow to cool for a few minutes.
- Gently pour the mixture onto the crust evenly, and dust with cinnamon.
- Let cool then chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours before serving





# PSA



# Movie Afternoon



**Years 1-6**

**Date: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

**Time: 3.15 - 5.00pm**

**Place: School hall**

**Price: £5.00 (1 x child) £9.00 (2 x siblings)  
£12.00 (3 x siblings) £15.00 (4 x siblings)**

**Popcorn and Drink included**

**Register your child/ren's place here:**



## Parking

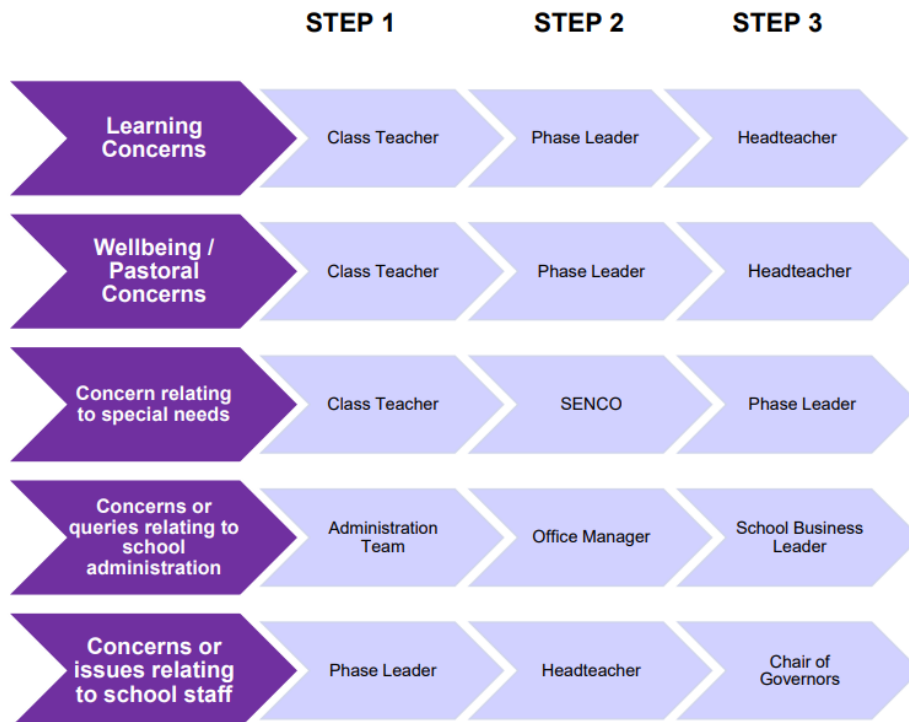
We recognise that everyone has busy lives and that pick up and drop off can be stressful, especially if you have to get somewhere fast. However, the **safety of everyone must always be a top priority** and parking illegally not only puts children in danger but also sets a bad example to them. Please leave enough time to **find a legal parking space** or even better... **WALK to school**.

The school has a lot of neighbours who regularly raise issues relating to parents and their driving. Please remember:

- Pavements and other people's driveways are NOT THERE FOR YOU TO USE, even temporarily.



## Colindale Primary School Communication Flow Chart



How to contact the Colindale team  
 Contact number:  
 020 8205 8706

Email address:  
 office@colindale.barnetmail.net

Phase Leaders

- EYFS- Mrs Hurn
- Years 1 and 2 – Miss Parmar
- Years 3 and 4 – Mr Wild
- Years 5 and 6 – Mrs Robertson

SENCO – Mrs French  
 School Business Leader – Mr Moor  
 Headteacher – Mrs Palmer

At Colindale we are a listening school – if you have a concern about anything please come and speak to us. We are here to listen, help, advise... the list goes on. We would rather try to deal with it in a friendly face-to-face informal way first, as communication is key to us all working together.

 **mind** in Enfield and Barnet

**Brandon  
Centre**  
Here for Young People

## **“PARENTS IN MIND”**

**Parents/Carer Support Programme**

**For Parents/carers whose young people are on the CAMHS treatment waiting list**

The 8-week online Parents/Carers Support Group is a safe and confidential space for parents/carers to gain information and skills to support their young person as well as receive peer support from other parents/carers.

Open to Enfield, Barnet, Haringey, Camden & Islington borough

### **Eligibility:**

Parent/carers whose adolescents (11-16) are on a CAMHS treatment waiting list with the main presenting concerns of:

- Anxiety,
- Depression,
- Self-harm
- And/or suicidality
- Does NOT include PTSD, an eating disorder, significant learning disability

### **GROUP STARTS**

**29/05/2024 (Wednesday) 10.00-11.30AM**

**or**

**29/05/2024 (Wednesday) 5.30-7.00PM**

**Referrals are welcome from North Central London CAMHS services (Tier 2&3)  
(Enfield, Barnet, Haringey, Camden & Islington)**

**Need more information?  
Please contact us at: 020 8343 5705  
email: [parentsupport@mindeb.org.uk](mailto:parentsupport@mindeb.org.uk)**

## Are your child's vaccinations up to date? Measles / MMR update.....

Current figures show that only 73% of under 5s in Barnet are fully vaccinated against measles. This is worryingly below the 95% that is needed to prevent an outbreak, as set by the World Health Organisation. The possibility of a major measles outbreak in Barnet will continue to grow unless MMR vaccination rates improve.



PROTECT YOUR  
COMMUNITY  
**Get Vaccinated**

Is your child protected against measles? Protect your child with the MMR vaccine.

Measles continues to be of increasing concern, as cases continue to rise in neighbouring boroughs. The possibility of a major measles outbreak in Barnet will continue to grow unless MMR vaccination rates improve.

Measles is a highly contagious disease and can lead to complications such as ear infections, pneumonia, and inflammation of the brain which requires hospitalisation. Measles can also lead to long term disability or death.

Spending 15 minutes or more in direct contact with someone infected with measles is enough to catch the infection. Any child identified as a close contact of a measles case without satisfactory vaccination status may be asked to self-isolate for up to 21 days.

Read this blog to learn about what to do if you think your child has measles and when to keep them off school.

MMR and autism

Measles is prevented by the MMR vaccine, which also protects against mumps and rubella. There is no link between the MMR vaccine and autism.

Check your child's red book and contact their GP to make sure they are up to date on their routine vaccinations. For more information visit: <https://nclhealthandcare.org.uk/keeping-well/baby-and-childhood-vaccinations/>

# Measles

IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH



Measles can be dangerous,  
especially for babies and  
young children.

## Messages from the school office

**Swimming** – Please send children’s swimming kit on the days when they have a swimming lesson.

**Payments** - please check your Arbor account to make a payment for school trips and breakfast clubs (if attending)

**Are your contact details correct?** - If you have changed my mobile / contact number or address recently you **MUST** tell the school office straight away so they can update the school system

**Messages From School** – All messages from school are sent to your email address. Please check your emails daily to see if you have received any messages. You will also get a notification in Arbor’s **In Message Arbor App** to say a message has been sent. Please make sure you download the app to your mobile.

### Dates for your diary:

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	4P Class Assembly
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term – <b>School finishes at 2pm</b>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School Holidays – School Closed
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	All pupils return to school
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	5M Class Assembly
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Last day of half term – school finishes at 3.30pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	Half Term Break – School closed
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All pupils return to school
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Last day of term – <b>School finishes at 2pm.</b>

Term dates for next academic year are on our website:

[Term Dates - Colindale Primary School](#)