

Colindale Primary School Newsletter

Issue 4: 13.11.23 – 24.11.23

Dear Families,

We have had yet another busy fortnight at school – with a 3-day residential trip for children in years 5 and 6; open lessons in Reception and Year 3; Interfaith Week; Children In Need celebrations and fundraising; and Friendship parties, to name just a few!

At Colindale we strive to ensure all pupils have **memorable learning experiences** through our fantastic curriculum both in and out of school. None of this would be possible without the **incredible staff team** who go over and above, day in and day out to make Colindale a happy, safe and fun learning place to be for your wonderful children.

This week we say a temporary **farewell to Miss Fernandez**, who will be taking some well-earned rest before her baby is due in December. **Miss Eribenne** will be joining the Colindale team, to cover Miss Fernandez's timetable from next week onwards. We wish Miss Fernandez well and a restful (as possible) maternity leave – we look forward to hearing exciting baby news soon.

Parent Governor News: A letter went out to all parents this week, announcing Mohammed Choudhury and Durim Nimani as our new parent governors. Welcome to the governing board, we are looking forward to your valuable strategic contributions to improving our school.

As we are now into Winter – please can you ensure that your child **brings a coat to school every day**. The children will still be playing outside in the cold weather and so will need the appropriate clothing. We also recommend your child has a hat. All clothing must be labelled with their name and class.



Best wishes for a lovely weekend.

Mrs Jane Palmer
Headteacher

Attendance awards for 13.11.23 – 24.11.23

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) – **4G**



Gold (highest attendance, but below 100%)- **6N, 3G**



Silver (second highest attendance)- **4P, 3N, 5T**



Bronze (3rd highest attendance) – **4P, 5J**

Well done to all the winners!

Rights Respecting at Colindale

During the month of November, the staff and pupils of Colindale will be focusing on Articles 29 and 19. Both articles link to respecting each other and being the best version of themselves. On the week beginning 14th November, it is Anti-Bullying Week and every will be discussing the topic of bullying and the impact it can have. At home, please have conversations with your child about these topics as they may or may not have questions about it. It is our responsibility as 'duty bearers' to talk to our children, to ensure they know how they can be helped if they are being bullied or harmed, either at home or school.

November Article 29 - Education

Education must develop every child to be the best that they can be.



It must encourage children to respect all people and the world around them.

This month also links to Article 19 – Protection

NSPCC



Who protects us at Colindale?

How do they protect us?

Every Child has the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, physically,

or mentally. Adults should look after and protect children from harm. Governments should make sure that adults do this.



In October we celebrated **Walk to School Month** as part of the International Walk to School month. We encouraged the children to come to school in a sustainable way such as walking, scooting, cycling or wheeling and promote active transportation, improve road safety, reduce traffic congestion, enhance the overall wellbeing of the children and tackle climate change. Our pupils have made more than **7,000** sustainable journeys throughout October and **550** won a WOW badge as a reward of their effort. The winning classes with the most sustainable journeys were **1T** in KS1 and **4G** in KS2. **Well Done!** This year Reception classes took part in the challenge for the first time, making more than 1,000 sustainable journeys! Carry on walking, scooting, cycling or wheeling! *Mrs Grigoriadou*

Infant Music Festival



On Tuesday, 30 year 2 children set off in the pouring rain, on their journey to the Hyde for the infant music festival. Even the rain couldn't dampen the spirits of the children as they dodged puddles and splashing buses (Sorry Miss Phillips). The theme of the songs was 'Friendship'. Their Once we dried off, the children's sweet voices echoed the halls of the Hyde, singing beautifully and doing Colindale proud. They showed off their individual song and dance moves while joining in with Ros and impressing her with their harmonies and singing in rounds. Even the penguins managed to survive the trip and made an appearance during the performance too! Thank you to all adults involved 😊

Year 5/6 School Journey to Hindleap Warren

This November, 33 year 6 and year 5 children enjoyed three fantastic days away in East Sussex at the Hindleap Warren Outdoor Activity Centre.

During the trip, the children took part in a range of challenging and adventurous activities: climbing a tower, archery, team building activities in the wood, a seesaw course and an unforgettable forest adventure that involved wading through mud and streams.



During the evening, the children watched a film to wind down after a fun-packed day.

The children were well-looked after throughout their stay, by five of our staff and the centre's own instructors. They slept in cosy log cabin-style accommodation and enjoyed a delicious menu with a wide-ranging choice of foods for all tastes. The tuck shop was also a big hit with them too!

All the children agreed that they had a great time, they discovered they had the courage to try new things and that they learnt many new skills.



Sending your child on residential can seem unsettling, if they have never been away from you before, however it is such a valuable experience for your child – teaching them independence, resilience, and social skills in a safe environment. If your child is in year 4 and 5 now, please start thinking about sending your child on this amazing trip next year and all they can gain from it.

A huge thank you to the Colindale Staff who gave up their free time to take this group away for 3 days/ 2 nights – this is another example of how our staff go over and above for pupils at Colindale.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



Travelling Book Fair

The Book Fair will be back in school next week (27th November – 1st December). It will run on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday in the Heartspace from 3.25-3.50 pm. Please come along and support our school by purchasing new and exciting books for your children. More importantly, each book that is purchased helps to provide free books for our school library. (Please note that payments can only be taken by credit/debit card). *Ms Dray*



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LOOK

£12.99 **£7.99**

NEW coming 28th November

Children in Need



Colindale School is a caring school, supporting many different charities over the year. On November 17th, the school was SPOTACULAR! We had lots of children AND staff covered in spots! We did this as part of Children in Need Day. Thank you so much to all who donated, your donations will go and help those in need all over the UK. As a school, so far, we have managed to raise £430

Our annual, and ever popular, **friendship parties** were a real success. The children who attended, and there were many of them, had a great time, dancing with their friends and enjoying a large slice of pizza. We managed to **raise £1297 for the school**. Thanks to everyone who helped out at the parties.



We have changed our bumped heads procedure in school for pupils in year 1-6

If children bump their heads, they will be seen by a 1st Aider who will treat them and either phone the parent/carer if the injury is serious or, if the child is able to continue in school, the 1st Aider will give the child a green lanyard to wear which indicates that they have had a head bump.

At the moment, we put a sticker on the child to show the staff and parents. We also send an email to parents. However, the stickers could fall off. We therefore think the lanyard is a better idea to inform staff and parents.

A letter, via email, will also be sent to the parent if the child is wearing a lanyard. Please check your emails every day to ensure that you receive the emails. (It is worth checking in junk mail). Please note lanyards stay in school and will not go home with your child.

Pupils in Nursery and Reception will still receive a green letter in paper form.



MMR Vaccinations

Cases of measles are rising in England and there is a risk of outbreaks in London. Protect your children against measles and prevent disruption to school attendance.

Measles is a viral illness that can be serious and sometimes fatal. Cases of measles are rising in London, and with around 75% of 5-year-olds fully vaccinated in Barnet, we are well below the World Health Organisations target of 95% needed to prevent an outbreak.

Symptoms of measles include high fever, runny nose, cough, red and watery eyes, small red spots with a bluish-white centre inside the mouth. A rash can appear later, usually on the face, upper neck, hands and feet, fading after 5 to 6 days.

Vaccination can help prevent outbreaks and protect against serious illness. 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. [Hear from Dr Colin Campbell on the importance of the MMR vaccine.](#)

Read more about the importance of ensuring your child is up to date with their [childhood vaccinations here](#).

Check your child's red book and contact their GP to make sure they are up to date on their routine vaccinations.

If your child has missed the vaccine as a baby or pre-schooler, contact your child's GP to make an appointment or visit a [catch up clinic](#):

Mill Hill Clinic, Hartley Avenue, Mill Hill, NW7 2HX

Phone: 0208 447 3622

Email: clcht.barnetimmunisationteam@nhs.net

[Click here for more information.](#)

You will remember in a previous newsletter I shared research into how music education can dramatically help improve the academic chances and outcomes in all pupils. This holistic approach to education is incredibly important in developing the whole child – not only that but high schools, colleges and universities look for pupils who have a wide range of skills, and music is highly valued in this process.



We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you regarding a special opportunity for new students at our Music Academies.

Introducing Our January Sale: 50% Discount on Group and Ensemble Fees!

In an effort to make music education more accessible to all, we are offering a remarkable 50% discount on all group and ensemble fees exclusively for new students enrolling between now and February half term.

This limited-time offer is designed to encourage and support newcomers in their musical journey, providing a fantastic opportunity to experience the joy of music at a significantly reduced cost.

To take advantage of this exclusive discount, families can either visit our website: [Kickstart Your Musical Journey with Our January Sale: 50% Off for New Students! - Barnet Education Arts Trust \(beatrust.org.uk\)](https://beatrust.org.uk) for more details or, contact our administrative office on 020 8959 4111 for additional information and enrolment assistance.

Messages from the school office

School Meals– Although all primary school aged children are entitled to free school meals, it is still essential that children stick with either school dinners or packed lunches. Swapping between the two options causes food waste or not enough food available for all children needing school dinners. For these reasons we ask that your child picks either school dinners or packed lunches and sticks to the option chosen. If you want your child's option to change, this is possible at the end of half term

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

In-App Message – If you respond to an In-App message in Arbor please make it clear which message you are responding to.

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:

Monday 27 th Nov – Friday 1 st December (not Wednesday)	Book Fair - Infant Heart Space 3.30pm
Friday 1 st December	6R Class Assembly – Topic
Tuesday 5 th December	Year 4 Verulamium Trip
Thursday 7 th December	Year 5 Trip to the Chicken Shed Theatre
Friday 8 th December	6B Class Assembly – Hanukkah
Friday 15 th December	2A Class Assembly – Christmas
Wednesday 20 th December	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 st December	Whole School Carol Concert
Thursday 21 st December	Last day of term – School finishes at 2pm
Friday 22 nd Dec – Friday 5 th January	School Holidays – School Closed
Monday 8 th January 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	All pupils return to school

School dates for next academic year 2024 / 2025 will be available for parents in the coming weeks.