

Colindale Primary School Newsletter

Issue 5: 27.11.23 – 08.12.23

Dear Families,

We have lots to celebrate and share with you in this issue, as everyone at Colindale has been working hard and enjoying learning.

There have been some educational visits to the Verulamium and Chicken Shed Theatre; Reception have been learning to cross the road safely; parents have been into school to see more open lessons; staff attended annual PREVENT training; plus, lots more!

School Improvement Visit:

Each term our LNI (Learning Network Inspector) from Barnet conducts a School Effectiveness Visit (SEV) to support and challenge the school in terms of school improvement and development. Our SEV visit this term had a focus on adaptive teaching in maths – an area of focus from the Ofsted report (July 2023)

Here are some of the comments from the recent visit:

- *Teachers consistently demonstrated secure subject knowledge and lessons were clearly structured.*
- *There is a calm, purposeful and inclusive atmosphere throughout the school. Pupils are keen to talk about their learning and are polite and respectful in their interactions with both adults and their peers. Behaviour for learning in the classroom is strong. Adults are positive role models and have established numerous harmonious relationships with pupils.*
- *Leaders are unequivocally ambitious for pupils.*

Class Assemblies

It is really lovely to see so many parents attending the **class assemblies** on Friday mornings. The children really love having you there. Please can I respectfully ask you to be mindful when asking staff members for photographs with your children, as some staff members do feel uncomfortable with this. Also, we are happy for you to take photos of your child and the assembly, but they must only be for personal use. Please do not share any photos, that have children other than your own, on social media.

Term dates for the academic year 2024/2025 are now up on our website: [Term-Dates-2024-2025-.pdf \(colindale.barnet.sch.uk\)](https://colindale.barnet.sch.uk/term-dates-2024-2025.pdf)

We hope to see you at our **Winter Fayre next Wednesday 13th December 3.30pm-5pm**. See poster on page 9 for more details.

Many thanks

Best wishes for a lovely weekend.

Mrs Jane Palmer
Headteacher



Attendance awards for 27.11.23 – 08.12.23

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 past fortnight:**



Super Gold (100% - this means every child in every day) – none 😞



Gold (highest attendance, but below 100%)- **3G, 4H**



Silver (second highest attendance)- **3N, 2M**



Bronze (3rd highest attendance) – **5M, 3D**

Well done to all the winners!

Attendance

A recent government report regarding attendance in schools stated, *'Being around teachers and friends in a school environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.'*

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure their child/dren get a full-time education.

School is open for pupils for **190 days a year** – and pupils are expected to attend all of these days. Holidays / days off are not permitted. (With exception to illness)

190 school days out of a whole year (365 days) = 52% of the year.

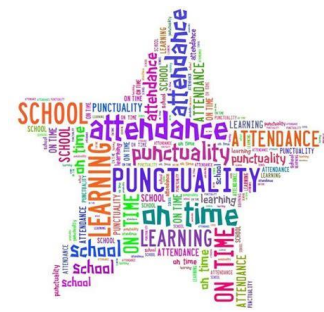
This means that there are 175 days (48%) of the rest of the year to take holidays / plan days out etc.

Please see out attendance policy for more details:

[Attendance-Policy-November-2021-1.pdf \(colindale.barnet.sch.uk\)](#)

Government report:

[Why is school attendance so important and what are the risks of missing a day? - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)



Rights Respecting at Colindale

Article 30 - December

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs, and religion of their family.

Do you know if you have a cultural centre for your community/

How can these centres help people to keep their language and customs alive?



Somali Cultural Centre



Afghanistan Cultural Centre

Safeguarding at Colindale

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Ms. Lindy Naphthine. If you have any worries or concerns, please speak to her or a member of the Safeguarding Team- we are always here to help.

They are:

Lindy Naphthine- Assistant Head- DSL

Emma Hurn- Deputy Head- deputy DSL

Sarah Robertson- Deputy Head- deputy DSL

Paul Wild- Assistant Head- deputy DSL



If they are unavailable, then alert: **Jane Palmer**- Head Teacher

In an emergency **ANYONE** can call MASH on: **02083594066** or if a child is at immediate risk call 999

Staff training - PREVENT

This week all Colindale staff attended PREVENT training - this is an annual requirement for all school staff as a part of the government's overall counter-terrorism strategy. This was delivered by an external trainer from Barnet. For more information about The Prevent Strategy [click here](#).

Home Time Collection

Please ensure your child is picked up on time at **3.15pm at the correct collection point**. If your child is in Years 3-6, please do not take your child from the line before they reach the collection point. Years 3 and 4 must be collected from the courts and Years 5 and 6 from the field.

If you are delayed in picking up your child at the end of the day, please give the office a call in the first instance.

If somebody else is picking up your child, you must let the teacher know in the morning at drop off or call the school office and give the name of the person collecting your child. No child will be released if we are not informed. Late collections will be monitored.

Nut Free School

We are a 'Nut Free School'. Items which contain nuts are not permitted in packed lunches or in snacks given to pupils at the end of the day, this includes chocolate spread such as Nutella. We have pupils and staff with severe nut allergies. Please help keep our pupils and staff safe and check the ingredients of food brought in.



KS2 Breaktime Snacks Reminder:

We actively encourage children in KS2 to bring in a mid-morning snack to be eaten at breaktime. This must be in line with our school food policy and **only be fruit or vegetables**. No crisps / crackers / cereal bars etc. Also, please be reminded that we are a **nut-free school**.



Uniform reminder:

We have a uniform at Colindale school to unite us. We believe that a uniform looks smart, wears well, supports good behaviour and contributes to a sense of belonging to our school. Our policy states that children must wear black, plain school shoes. They can also wear plain black trainers – no coloured logo please.

Our policy does not allow black boots – this is for health and safety reasons in school. The children cannot sit comfortably on the carpet with them; some boots do not have enough grip or protection and are simply for fashion. Even in this colder weather, socks / tights and shoes are perfectly fine for all children. Black school shoes are readily available in most supermarkets at very reasonable prices.

Our uniform policy : [Uniform - Colindale Primary School](#)



We are also setting up a second-hand uniform rail at school - where parents can take items they need and give whatever they can afford. The rail will be in the school foyer area on Friday mornings and afternoons. If you have any good quality uniform, you would like to donate, please give it to the office – washed and in a bag.

PRELOVED
THE JOY OF SECOND HAND

<p>UK Government</p> <p>Help for Households</p> <p>There is still HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING</p> <p>Discover what help you are entitled to:</p> <p>gov.uk/helpforhouseholds</p>	<p>UK Government</p> <p>Help for Households</p> <p>There is help for millions of households with the cost of living</p> <p>With more than 40 schemes to help with the cost of living, discover what support is available for you at gov.uk/helpforhouseholds</p> <p><small>If you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland eligibility criteria may vary, and there may be different or additional help available.</small></p>
<p>Click on the image above to take you to the website</p>	<p>Click on the image above to take you to the information leaflet</p>

Celebrating Success @ Colindale

Each week there is something new to celebrate at Colindale! These past 2 weeks have been no exception!

SILVER ARTSMARK AWARD!



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Colindale had fantastic news this week – we have awarded the SILVER Artsmark award. Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education across the whole curriculum, bringing learning to life for children and young people.

To achieve our Artsmark Award, we had to show how we have developed the arts and cultural provision to embed a broad and ambitious curriculum. This was achieved by creating an overall plan that was committed to and delivered across the whole school.

We're extremely proud of achieving our Artsmark **Silver** Award. We are committed to delivering a high-quality arts and cultural education and we look forward to continuing to grow with Artsmark.

Thank you to Mrs Hurn and Mr Bermpos for their leadership and hard work in gaining this prestigious award.

Click here for more details : [Artsmark](#)

Extra-Curricular Success

We also love to celebrate the success of our wonderful pupils outside of school – because learning and growing doesn't just happen in school!

Suhavi (3N) and Gunnaaz (1A) have been practicing the martial art of Quan Ki Do for 2 years. Last weekend they took part in a championship competition. Suhavi won a silver and bronze medal; Gunnaaz managed to get 2 firsts' resulting in two medals and two trophies! Well done girls!



Primary Mathematics Challenge (Year 5 and Year 6)



Well done to all the children in Year 5 and Year 6 who took part in the Primary Mathematics Challenge on 14th November. In total we had 6 gold certificate winners including Freddie (5M), Agarshan (6N), Aman (6N), Areg (5J), Ananjan (5M) and Kiaan (6B), 9 silver certificate winners and 34 bronze certificate winners.

Sumdog England Maths Contest

Well done to all the children who took part in the Sumdog England Maths Contest in November. Here are the results:

Top 3 students in Colindale Primary School

4H Selina 166th out of 14,731

4G Walid 218th out of 14,731

4H Abdullah 407th out of 14,731

895
Classes qualified

14,731
Students played

Sumdog England Maths Contest - 17 Nov to 23 Nov



Position	Class name	Score
100th	Class 4G, Colindale Primary School	273
169th	Class 4H, Colindale Primary School	216
604th	Class 6R, Colindale Primary School	73
790th	Class 6B, Colindale Primary School	40
823rd	Class 6N, Colindale Primary School	34

Learning @ Colindale

Interfaith Week

Each year across the UK an Interfaith Week is held. It's an opportunity for people to learn about different faiths and cultures. At Colindale, pupils brought in objects that represent their religion belief or community. It was a chance for us to learn about each other's cultures and celebrate our diverse community.



We also had visitors from different faiths. Rabbi Jackie visited Y1 and Y3. She retold the story of Hanukkah to our Y1 pupils and talked about why it is an important time for Jewish people. She spoke her role as a Rabbi and life as a Jewish person to Y3. She shared many objects which she uses in her everyday life and in her role. Y3 had lots of well thought-out questions for her.

Father Duckett visited Y2 and spoke about inspirational people in Christianity. They learnt about lots of saints who are special to Christian people and what they had done to inspire.

He also explained that he was named after a saint.

Some of the children explained who they were named after.

Year 4 were visited by Venerable Jue Qian. She spoke to Y4 about why Buddha is an important person to Buddhists. She also explained about her role at the Buddhist temple. She explained why meditating and chanting is an important part of her daily life.



Thank you Miss Christie, our RE lead, for organising
Such an interesting week



Open Lessons

Each term, we invite parents to visit their children's class to see what learning looks like in school. We call these 'open lessons.' Over the past few weeks, we have had open lessons in all year groups from Reception to Year 6.

We love having you in the lessons, and so do the children. In some classes there wasn't much room to move! Thank you to all the hard-working teachers at Colindale for showcasing their lessons.

Year 1 – Handwriting

Year 2 – Handwriting (happening next week)

Year 4 - Multiplication Tables

Year 5 – Spellings

Year 6 – Comprehension and Accelerated Reader

Thank you, parents and carers, for supporting your children's learning – and being part of our Colindale Primary School Community. 😊

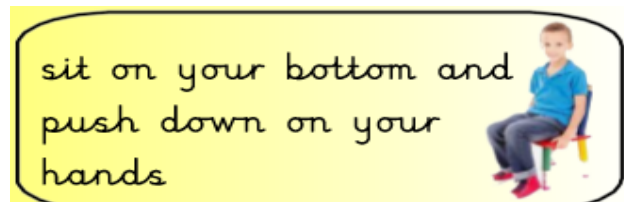
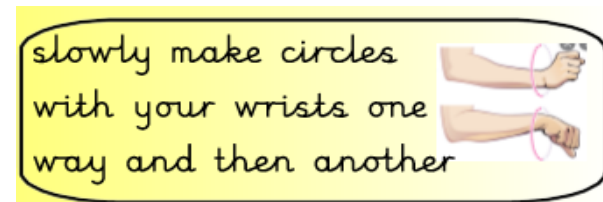


Year 1 Open Lesson in Handwriting



On Monday 4th December, Year 1 invited their parents to come and join in a handwriting lesson. Parents and children warmed up by doing some exercises with their hands and arms

These are some of the exercises you can do at home :



They also learnt about the importance of sitting correctly at a table; having the correct pencil grip; and tilting the paper the correct way. These are the steps they followed:

1. Feet flat on the floor
2. Sit up straight
3. Elbows resting on your desk
4. Hold your book still, with your non-writing hand
4. Neck and shoulders relaxed.
5. Paper tilted to the left (if right-handed)
6. Paper tilted to the right (if left-handed)

Hold pencil with a light grip.

1. Thumb holds pencil.
2. First finger rests on top of the pencil.
3. Pencil rests against third finger.

Left hand

Right hand



The lessons were really well attended, with over 60 parents joining us. The children loved having their parents / family members there to support them with their learning.

Recipe of the month

The recipe is plant-based and adopted from ProVeg International:

"A plant-based diet can have numerous positive effects on the environment, including the preservation of biodiversity, more sustainable use of resources and combatting climate change."

Crunchy Minty Green Pea Salad



Preparation
Time:
5 minutes



Cooking Time:
9 minutes

Ingredients

Servings: 10 children

750 g **Fine green beans**
300 g **Peas**
85 g **Spring onions** finely sliced

150 g **Baby spinach** roughly chopped
75 g **Mint sauce**

Instructions

- Cook the green beans in plenty of boiling water until tender.
- Immediately drain and plunge the beans into iced water with the cold tap running until the beans are completely cold. Drain well.
- Combine all the ingredients to serve.

Dr Bike

Barnet Council's Parking team has arranged free Dr Bike sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics in December. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required.

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 9am and 3pm.

Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	09/12/2023
Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7	10/12/2023
Watling Avenue Car Park, Burnt Oak, HA8	16/12/2023
Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12	17/12/2023
Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7	23/12/2023
Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	30/12/2023



Both adult and child bicycles can have the **FREE** safety check



Organised by the Parent Staff Association of Colindale Primary School.
All proceeds go towards playground equipment.

Barnet
mencap

FAMILY LINKS

find out
how to get the best out
of family life

We will be running an online Nurturing Programme for parents of autistic children, children with a learning disability, or ADHD

The first session will be held online at
10am-12 noon on Tuesday 16th January 2024

Sessions will take place every Tuesday for 10 weeks, finishing on Tuesday 26th March 2024

There will be no session on 13th February as it is half-term

This is a course for parents and there are limited spaces. For more information or to book your space now, please contact Project Support via projectsupport@barnetmencap.org or telephone 020 8349 3842

020 8349 3842



It's so important that children have a voice. Have your say in the nationwide survey to tell policy makers in the government what is important to you, in time for the next general election.

Closing date: Friday 19th January 2024 . Click on the image to complete the survey. It takes 5-10 mins.

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:

Wednesday 13 th December	Winter Fayre 3:30-5pm
Friday 15 th December	2A Class Assembly – Christmas
Monday 18 th December	KS2 Choir Carol Singing at Bang Bang
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
Friday 9 th February 2024	Last day of half term – school finishes at 3.30pm
Mon 12 th Feb – Friday 16 th Feb 2024	Half Term Break - school closed
Monday 19 th February 2024	All pupils return to school
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Last day of term – School finishes at 2pm
Friday 29 th March – Friday 12 th April 2024	School Holidays – School closed
Monday 15 th April 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 16 th April 2024	All pupils return to school
Monday 6 th May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed
Friday 24 th May 2024 2024	Last day of half term – school finishes at 3.30pm
Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May 2024	Half Term Break - school closed
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 4 th June 2024	All pupils return to school
Wednesday 24 th July 2024	Last day of term – School finishes at 2pm