

## Colindale Primary School Newsletter

### Issue 6: 11.12.23 – 21.12.23

Dear Families,

As I write the final newsletter of the term and of 2023, I have been reflecting on what a wonderful Autumn term we have had at Colindale. We have welcomed many new families; classes have been on a variety of educational visits; we have welcomed new staff to the school and, more recently, festive songs have been pouring out of classes and corridors filling the school with joy.

These past 2 weeks have been packed full of **incredible learning** alongside lots of smiles and laughter. I have seen Y3 perform superhero dances in PE; listened to Y2 read their poems based on traditional tales; watched 2 wonderful Christmas song performances in Nursery and Reception; witnessed amazing animation in action in Year 4; read some wonderful Winter poems in year 5; and so much more.

This week we say a temporary **farewell to Mrs Ates**, who will be taking some well-earned rest before her baby is due in January. **Mrs Frunza** will be taking 2A for the rest of the academic year. The children already know Mrs Frunza well, so the transition will be very smooth. We wish Mrs Ates well and a restful (as possible) maternity leave – we look forward to hearing exciting baby news soon.

Talking of baby news..... **Miss Fernandez** gave birth to **baby Leo** last Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, weighing a healthy 3.45kg (7lbs 9oz). His big sister Chloe was very excited to meet him, and Miss Fernandez said he is a calm and peaceful baby; lets hope that continues. What a wonderful early Christmas gift.



This week has been all things festive at Colindale! The children thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas lunch put on by the lovely catering staff. We had turkey with all the trimmings, Christmas music and crackers. The children really loved having the school staff eat with them too. Father Christmas came to visit all the classrooms on Wednesday – he was very interested in hearing all about the fantastic learning happening in classes and loved listening to the children singing. He even brought round some presents for the class to share.



Coming soon.... Colindale now has its own Instagram page! If you have an Instagram account yourselves, then why not follow us! (@colindaleprimary) The account is live now, but we will start using it to share the wonders of Colindale from January 2024. We will use the account to share the exciting things we have been doing – a social media policy will be available to read on the school website in the new year, and we will ensure we are adhering to GDPR guidelines.

For those families celebrating Christmas - I wish you a wonderful Christmas

I wish you all a wonderful and peaceful break over the festive period.

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) – **no one this fortnight!**



Gold (highest attendance, but below 100%)- **2A, 5J**



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



Bronze (3<sup>rd</sup> highest attendance) – **RW, 2A**

**Well done to all the winners!**

## Rights Respecting at Colindale

### Article 30

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



Somali Cultural Centre



Afghanistan Cultural Centre

**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?**

## Year 5 – Chickenshed Theatre trip

Year 5 had the pleasure of watching 'The Toymaker's Child' which is a wonderful retelling of the classic Pinocchio story at the Chickenshed Theatre. The children were fascinated by the beautifully designed sets and the captivating cast of colourful characters! The children then followed up by writing a theatre review in English lessons.



### Year 4 Trip to Verulamium

On the 5th of December, year 4 children went on an educational trip to Verulamium Museum in St Albans as part of our Autumn history topic, The Romans. The day was dedicated to immersing themselves in the rich history of the Roman civilization. The children explored Roman ruins and artefacts within the museum grounds, participating in a workshop that provided hands-on experience with Roman everyday objects. Whilst exploring the grounds, the children got to see parts of the Roman wall built by the Romans to defend the city of Verulamium from enemies. They also visited the Hypocaust, an ancient underfloor heating system which is a marvel of Roman engineering and an excellent example of the first indoor heating systems installed in Britain! "It's unbelievable that Romans had underfloor heating like we have in our school," Noha from 4G remarked. The children were impressed by the whole experience of the trip, following the steps of the Romans. A special thank you to all the parents that came along, the visit would not have been possible without you!



### Road Safety Week in Reception

Reception have been learning about road safety and how to cross the road safely by always remembering to 'stop', 'look', 'listen', and 'think' before crossing.

The children were very excited to go on a road safety walk. Before going on their adventure, they put on their high visibility jackets to make sure they could be seen.

The roads around the school were quite busy, but they all remembered to follow the road safety rules by staying close to the wall while walking along the pavement, waiting at the kerb before crossing the road and looking left and right. They practiced crossing the main road at the pelican crossing, making sure they waited for the Green Man light before crossing.

Well done Reception for remembering the Road Safety rules!





### Year 4 - Stop Animation (English, Computing, Design)

In Year 4, the children get the opportunity to write a fantasy story, which they then turn into a playscript, alongside this they build scenes and characters from plasticine, it's a proper project. Once this is done, they are fortunate enough to work with professional visual artist, Reza Ben Gajra, who comes in and spends a day with each class. He brings with him all manner of technology to help turn the children's stories into stop animation films. It takes great patience, resilience, and creativity to produce the desired effect but having watched the Year 4 children working with Reza I am sure the final product will be worth it. Reza has been very impressed, not only by the children's creativity but also the way they have thrown themselves positively into a task that does not give instant gratification. In fact, the children will need to wait into the new year to see their finished film as once the filming is done Reza takes the images that have been taken and edits the films to include sound effects etc. We look forward to inviting you to the 'Premier' of the films in January/February time.





## Winter Fayre

The annual Winter Fayre was another successful PSA event. Children from every year group made items to sell. There were stalls selling calendars, decorations, delicious gingerbread men, photo and picture frames, sweet treats and much, much more. Lots of children went to see Santa Claus in his grotto and told them what they wished for Christmas before receiving their gifts. There were games, including Reindeer Hoopla, Snowball Shoot, Candy Cane Chance, Guess the Name of the Giant Teddy Bear and Tombola. The ever-popular raffle had so many prizes, all kindly donated by our staff members, school supply staff agencies and **Going Greek restaurants**. A big thank you to the staff who helped to organise the event and to the staff and parents who manned the stalls. We raised in the region of **£2500** for school playground equipment!





### KS2 Choir Carol Singing

The KS2 choir have been busy performing Christmas carols at Barnet Council offices and Bang Bang Oriental Food Hall.

On 6<sup>th</sup> December, they walked to Barnet Council office in Bristol Avenue, Colindale. They sang carols to the Barnet Council staff, and the Mayor of Barnet to raise money for the charity Live Unlimited. See the choir on the Barnet Council X.com post here:

<https://x.com/BarnetCouncil/status/1734171847036371043?s=20>. After the performance, they were treated to a soft drinks and snacks reception in Barnet College!



On 18<sup>th</sup> December, they walked to Bang Bang Oriental Food Hall, where they sang carols to the diners at lunchtime.

On both occasions they sang beautifully and received many compliments from all who were watching.



Next stop, the O2 Arena!

### Football results

Colindale's football team have had a great start to the season, only losing their first game and winning the next three matches. They had a tough start to begin with, losing 3-0 to SMSJ. They have really learnt to work well as a team, playing an excellent second game against Sunnyfields, winning 10-3! Hendon Prep were next and Colindale won again, 3-0. This has left the boys in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league, at as it stands, with two more league games left to play this season. Our final game before the Christmas holidays was a Barnet Martin Cup match. Colindale played away on a very muddy pitch against Edgware Primary and won 4-1! We are now due to play Broadfields in a quarter final tie in February. A special thank you to the parents who have come to support the boys at their matches and Ridvan and Shayan in 6R, who have been our top scorers this season!



### Reception Christmas Song Performance

All three Reception classes put on a wonderful Christmas Song Performance on 14th December. They looked fabulous in their festive clothes and performed the songs with such energy and enthusiasm; Jingle Bells being the children's favourite!

Thank you to the Reception staff for all their hard work in organising the performance, and to the family members who came to support their children.



### Carol Concert

This morning we ended the term with our annual Carol Concert. It's lovely for us to get together as a school before the holiday and also reminds us why Christmas is a special time for some people. Each year group learnt a carol and sang beautifully to help retell the story of the Nativity. Thank you to all the children and teachers for learning their carols and a big well done to Virika, Nell, Afia, Alexandra, Saara and Anwar who confidently spoke to tell the story alongside the carols. Merry Christmas and have a lovely holiday!





**Barnet Education and Learning Service**

**LANGUAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME (LEP)**

**FREE TRAINING for Parents / Carers of Primary or Secondary Aged Children \***

3 live remote (via ZOOM) training sessions: January and February 24 – dates below

BELS (Barnet Education and Learning Service) and Wave SLT are repeating our highly successful free language and communication training courses for parents / carers.

Parent Feedback

"This was very interesting course, thank you and see you again"  
"Thank you so so much. Was really helpful"

**Aim:** To provide useful and practical strategies to help support communication development in the home environment.

\*\*\* See additional leaflet for full information.

There are 2 courses on offer in the Spring Term 24 (dates and times below)

- 1) **Primary** (for parent/ carers of children approx. 5-11yrs old)
- 2) **Secondary** (for parent/ carers of children approx. 11- 16 yrs old)

**Trainer:** Ashleigh McKeown: Ashleigh is a Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist. She has experience working with children in the early years, primary schools and secondary schools for the NHS, both in mainstream schools and in additional resourced provisions. She also completes diagnostic assessments for children with social communication differences. Ashleigh supports children with a wide range of communication needs and her passion is motivating and empowering those around the child to support their communication.

To book a place click on the link or scan the QR code :

<https://forms.office.com/r/pXBPdeJAGB>



For booking enquiries, please email [sue.bills@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:sue.bills@barnet.gov.uk)



**Dates for all the training courses – Primary and Secondary**

SESSION	DATE	AGE GROUP	TIME
Week 1 /Training session 1	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 24	Secondary (aged 11-16)	9.45-10.30 am Or (repeat) 6.45 – 7.30pm
What is Communication ?		Primary (aged 5-11 )	11.00 -11.45am Or (repeat) 8.00-8.45 pm
Week 2: You will have a chance to practice the strategies that you have learnt at home with your child.			
Week 3 /Training session 2	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 24	Secondary	9.45-10.30 am Or (repeat) 6.45 – 7.30pm
Activities to do at home		Primary	11.00 -11.45am or (repeat) 8.00-8.45 pm
Weeks 4 & 5: You will have a chance to practice the strategies that you have learnt at home with your child.			
Week 6/Training session 3	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 24	Secondary	9.45-10.30 am Or (repeat) 6.45 – 7.30pm
Language in your everyday routines		Primary	11.00 -11.45am Or (repeat) 8.00-8.45 pm
Week 7: You will have a chance to practice the strategies that you have learnt at home with your child			
Week 8 Feedback Session for attendees all age groups	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 24	All Age groups	9.45-10.30 am OR (repeat) 6.45 – 7.30pm

 [www.barnet.gov.uk/local-offer](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/local-offer)



**BELS**  
Barnet Education & Learning Service

**AGES 4-16**

# WINTER

## FAMILY FUN DAYS

- MULTISPORTS
- BMX BIKING SESSIONS
- INFLATABLE FUN
- NERF GUN & ARCHERY ACTIVITIES
- MOVIES SCREENS

**BOOK YOUR CHOSEN ACTIVITY TODAY**

**Locations**

- ✓ Hendon Leisure Centre, NW2 1XQ
- ✓ East Barnet School, EN4 8PU
- ✓ Finchley Youth Centre , N2 9ED
- ✓ St James School, NW9 5PE

**REGISTER NOW:**



**BARNETYOUTH.CO.UK**

Caring for people, our places and the planet

[www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk)

**YOUNG BARNET** Foundation  
Department for Education

**BACE** Barnet Area Community Engagement

**BARNET** LONDON BOROUGH

**AGES 4-16**

# WINTER

## BIG TOP TENT EVENTS

**Victoria Park, Finchley**  
**02 & 03 January 2024**

**BOOK YOUR CHOSEN SHOW / ACTIVITY TODAY**

**4-11 years:**

- Princess Park Trail, Sing-along & Meet & Greet
- Science Show and Workshop
- Tales Trip to the Circus Show (Chickenshed)

**7-16 years:**

- Magic Show and Workshop
- Muay Thai Boxing Sessions
- Circus Skills Sessions

**REGISTER NOW:**



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**YOUNG BARNET** Foundation  
Department for Education

**BACE** Barnet Area Community Engagement

**THE REVEL PUCK CIRCUS**

**BARNET** LONDON BOROUGH





## Eco Schools-Healthy Schools



**Food waste** has become a serious environmental and economic issue. Millions of people around the globe struggle to meet basic dietary needs while a huge portion of food produced ends up in landfills. To avoid food waste this Christmas, please find below some ideas adopted from **Simply Veg** [Simply Veg saves Christmas! - Simply Veg](#)



**“How do I get the amount right, so I don’t overspend or end up throwing food away?”**

The single most important step you can take to be more Christmas savvy is to **plan for it**. Ask yourself:

- How many people am I feeding?
- Are there any dietary restrictions?
- What are the foods I must have on my Christmas dinner table?
- What can be cut to save money and stress?
- What is a portion and how many do I need?

Check recipes to see how many servings it lists – most recipes can easily be halved if it’s too much! Order or go out and buy only what you need and keep costs down. Over-ordering can lead to food waste and money in the bin, so a **list** is your best friend!

Hub of Hope – FREE well-being App.  
This incredible new app has lots of help at your fingertips.  
Download here: [Hub of Hope](#)



Money Saving Central - has lots of help and ideas if Christmas is a financial strain on you and your family.  
Click here: [Money Saving Central - Christmas Help](#)



## Help over the Holidays

This time of year can either bring lots of joy or hardship. Everyone’s story is different, be it financial worries, family issues or something else.

Please remember that a problem shared is a problem halved.

It is ok to reach out and ask for help and there are lots of places you can go to for help and advice. Don’t suffer on your own.

## Christmas and mental health - Mind

Christmas can have a big effect on our mental health – especially when there is so much pressure to be ‘perfect’.

(By the way.... There is no such thing as a perfect Christmas!)





# S4K AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

## Colindale Primary School

**S4K Afterschool Clubs** are an extension of the school day, aimed at supporting working parents, but to also give children the chance to enjoy physical and mental well-being activities. Every day is different, supported by S4K coaches teaching sports and fun physical games to children, mixed with activities designed to help children relax and unwind. For all children from **Reception - Yr6**.

**Afterschool Club: 3:30 - 4:30pm - £7.50** - This club includes 1 hour of sports. Pick-up time is **4:30pm**.

**Home Club: 3:30 - 4:30pm - £15** - If you would like your child to stay later than 4:30, then you need to book our Home Club option. This club includes 1 hour of sports, snack time and then free play time. Pick-up time is between **5-6pm**.

		Afterschool Club: 3:30-4:30	Home Club: 3:30-6
Monday	Dodgeball Reception - YR6	BOOK NOW	Spring Term 1: BOOK NOW
Tuesday	Football Reception - YR6	BOOK NOW	
Wednesday	Multi-Sport Reception - YR6	BOOK NOW	Spring Term 2: BOOK NOW
Thursday	Movers Reception - YR6	BOOK NOW	
Friday	Football ONLY YR 4 - YR6	BOOK NOW	



www.sport4kids.biz



enquiries@sport4kids.biz



0300 303 3866

*It is essential to register online before the start of any after school programme so the coach has an accurate record of all children attending, as well as contact details and any medical conditions. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in Sport4Kids care. We thank you in advance for your co-operation.*



## 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:

Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last day of term – <b>School finishes at 2pm</b>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	School Holidays – School Closed
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	All pupils return to school
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	KS2 Choir - Young Voices Concert @the O2 Arena
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	2M Class Assembly
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	2T Class Assembly
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Year Trip to RAF Museum
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024	1A Class Assembly
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	1CH – Class Assembly Last day of half term – school finishes at 3.30pm
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024	Half Term Break – school closed
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	All pupils return to school
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024	1T Class Assembly
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	5J Class Assembly
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	5T Class Assembly
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	5M Class Assembly
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
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>