

## Colindale Primary School Newsletter

### Issue 9: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Families,

This half term has flown by, and we couldn't be prouder of your children and how they have been working and conducting themselves in school.

Thank you to all the families that came to the **parent consultation meetings** this week. These meetings are an important part of building a good relationship between parents and the school, to ensure that your children succeed and reach their potential. At Colindale we are proud of our holistic approach to education – ensuring that every child thrives both academically and personally. If you haven't yet met with your child's teacher, please contact them to arrange a mutually convenient time.

**Independence is an important part of growing up** and will help your child grow into confident and competent individuals. At Colindale we encourage independence in all year groups, at differing levels. Please encourage your child to do more things themselves, even if it does mean it takes longer (which we know can be frustrating at times!)

- **Get your child to carry their own bag to school** – they do not need you to carry it! I am always surprised at the number of children who get 'given' their bag at the school gate after a parent has carried it to school!
- Can they **dress themselves? Do their own coat up?** - I know mornings can sometimes be a rush – but plan ahead.
- **Let your child walk into school themselves**, from the main school gate, if they are in **years 2-6**. There are staff members on both gates and at every door. Say goodbye at the main gate; we will ensure they get safely inside and to their classrooms.

**As parents, we can find giving independence to our children challenging – as we always want to help them, but sometimes too much help can prevent them from succeeding properly.**

Our **social media** accounts are now up and running. We have an **Instagram** (@colindaleprimary) and **Facebook** (Colindale Primary School) account. **Please follow us**, we will be sharing lots of lovely work and events that happen during school.



Have a wonderful half term and we will see you all ready for another 6 weeks of learning on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Mrs Jane Palmer  
Headteacher



## **Attendance awards for 29.01.24 – 08.02.24**

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%)- **5T, 2M**



Silver (second highest attendance)- **3D, 4P**



Bronze (3<sup>rd</sup> highest attendance) – **6N, 4H**

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

### **Attendance**

Our whole school attendance is currently sitting at 94% - this is below the national expectation of 96%.

**All pupils are expected to be in school**, unless they are really too ill to attend, and have an attendance rate of between 96-100%.

Any pupil with below 90% attendance is referred to our EWO – Educational Welfare Officer – from Barnet, and you may be called in for a meeting.

Barnet issue fines for pupils who are taken abroad in term time.

**Please do not ask for term time leave** for holidays, visiting relatives or “unexpected” vacations. This will be **unauthorised** and could lead to a **fine** from Barnet Council. There are only 190 school days out of 365 days of a year, and 13 weeks of school holiday – plenty of time to see family and friends abroad then! We know that flights are cheaper during term time, but this is not a good enough reason to take your child out of school.

When booking a holiday abroad please try not to book your return flight home on the day / evening before school starts. **Delayed flights are always checked** by our attendance officer and proof of original flights (that prove you intended to fly back to the UK before the start of term) are required.

**By being in school on time, every day, your child is being taught the essential life skills and good habits for their future as adults who go to work.**

*The Law relating to attendance*

*Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 states that ‘the parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him / her to receive efficient full time education suitable:-*

*(a) to age, ability and aptitude and*

*(b) to any special educational needs he/ she may have*

*Either by regular attendance at school or otherwise’*

## Rights Respecting at Colindale

### Article 17

Children have the right to information that is important to their well-being. Adults must ensure that this information is not harmful.



How do you keep safe when on-line?



Mind Resources for  
'Time to Talk' Day  
2024

Whose job is it to make sure children get the right type of information?  
What MIGHT happen if children get the **wrong** types of information?  
What is **WRONG** information? Can you trust everything people tell you?

Talking is important...to your parents, friends and teachers.

Who do you talk to if you have a worry?

Talk can help you to discover, clarify and learn.

'Time to Talk' day is on February 1<sup>st</sup>.



When is Children's Mental Health Week 2024?

It takes place from **5-11 February** and was launched to give voice to all children and young people in the UK. The theme for 2024 is **My Voice Matters**. Check out BBC for some great resources ☺



At Colindale, we offer a variety of school clubs to broaden the children's horizons. For example, we offer art club, coding club and sports clubs. Please see the school website using the link below to find out more information [Clubs - Other - Colindale Primary School](#)

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is an international legal treaty. It sets out the rights that children are entitled to, and each one is referred to as an article. There are 54 articles in the CRC and 42 give specific rights to children and young people under 18.

See the poster for the language of the articles at Colindale.

[Article Poster.pdf](#)

Could you have a discussion with your child about one or two of the articles?



### Year 1's Trip to the RAF Museum

On the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Year 1 visited the RAF Museum. We saw lots of planes from the past, including a biplane. The children loved the invisible plane that was called 'lightning'. The children took part in a workshop where they flew their own plane. They learnt lots of information about different parts of a plane and the history of planes and how they have changed over time. They thoroughly enjoyed the playground at the RAF museum as they got to play on a variety of planes.



 **ROYAL  
AIR FORCE  
museum**



## Well Being Support

This month's wellbeing support is from the charity Mind – their side by side website provides an online community where you can listen, share and be heard.

Click on the [here](#) to go direct to the website.



## Eco Schools-Healthy Schools

### Recipe of the Month

**Pancake Day (Tuesday 13.2.24)– Vegan Style** (adopted from PETAUK)



#### Ingredients:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp baking powder
- Pinch salt
- 1 cup soya milk
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil



#### Method:

- Combine the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt in a bowl and mix thoroughly. Mix in the soya milk and oil and, with an electric mixer or wire whisk, beat just until the batter is smooth.
- Measure 1/2 cup batter onto a hot, oiled pan. When bubbles appear on the upper surface of the pancake (in about 2 minutes), lift with a spatula and flip the pancake.
- Cook for another 2 minutes. Remove it from the pan and keep it warm while you make the remaining pancakes.
- Serve warm with fresh fruit, honey or any other tasty topping!





The Boys Football Team have had a great season...

They won their final league match against The Hyde a few weeks ago, 3-0, finishing second in the league, only losing one match the whole season to SMSJ (who won all their games!)

We are so proud of you 😊



There is a rise in Measles across London at the moment – it is very important to get your child vaccinated against measles and other potentially harmful diseases. Please contact your GP asap to check if you are up-to-date with your vaccinations or to book your **FREE** vaccinations now.



*BeLifted*

## CHILDHOOD VACCINATIONS

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

VACCINES ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT DISEASES SAVING YOUR CHILD'S LIFE AND PROTECT OTHERS YOU CARE ABOUT

WHEN TO VACCINATE  
**SCAN ME** 

APPOINTMENT INFO FOR PARENTS  
**SCAN ME** 

**NHS**

Some babies are too young to be protected by vaccination and others may not be able to receive certain vaccinations due to severe allergies or weakened immune systems from conditions like leukaemia, or other reasons. To help keep them safe, it is important that you and your children are fully immunized. This not only protects your family, but also helps prevent the spread of these.



### VACCINES DO



- Safeguard from numerous hazardous and potentially life-threatening illnesses.
- Undergo rigorous safety testing and are constantly monitored for potential side effects afterwards.
- Protect others in your community by stopping disease spreading to people who cannot have vaccines.
- Help reduce or even eliminate certain diseases, provided a sufficient number of people are vaccinated.
- Sometimes cause mild side effects that will not last long some children may feel a bit unwell and have a sore arm for 2 or 3 days.

### VACCINES DON'T



- Overload or weaken the immune system - it's safe to give children several vaccines at a time as this reduces the number of injections they need.
- Contain ingredients that cause harm in such small amounts - speak to your doctor if you have any known allergies.
- Cause autism - Studies have shown no evidence or any link between the MMR vaccine and autism.
- Cause allergies or any other conditions - current evidence tells us vaccinating is safer than not doing so.
- Contain mercury (thiomersal)



There's a new parenting app and community for sharing parenting insights and experiences from a large group of parents of 0-3 year olds.

Their mission is to uncover the unfiltered truth about parenting, tackling confusing advice and unrepresentative opinions.

How it works: Parents share their experiences (anonymously) across 7 quick weekly questions, then see what other parents are doing and experiencing, personalised to their child's age range.

Explore and join – it is completely free! [Parenting insights](https://parentinginsights.co.uk/) | [Wish I'd Known \(wishidknown.co\)](https://wishidknown.co/)

You can also follow them on Instagram @wishidknownapp



## 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:**

<b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024</b>	<b>Half Term Break – school closed</b>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	<b>All pupils return to school</b>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024</b>	<b>1T Class Assembly</b>
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>5J Class Assembly</b>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>5T Class Assembly</b>
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>4G Class Assembly</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>4P Class Assembly</b>
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Last day of term – <b>School finishes at 2pm</b></b>
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	<b>School Holidays – School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	<b>Staff INSET - school closed for pupils</b>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	<b>All pupils return to school</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed</b>
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>Last day of half term – school finishes at 3.30pm</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>Half Term Break – School closed</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024</b>	<b>Staff INSET - school closed for pupils</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>	<b>All pupils return to school</b>
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b>	<b>Last day of term – <b>School finishes at 2pm.</b></b>

Term dates for next academic year are on our website:

[Term Dates - Colindale Primary School](#)