

Colindale Primary School Newsletter

March 2022



Messages from the office

ParentPay – please ensure you have cleared outstanding monies on your ParentPay account. If you have any problems logging into your account, please call the school office.

Weduc – all communication from the school is done through Weduc. If you have not activated your account, please do so asap. Come to the school office if you have any questions.

Summer Term – school returns on the 19th April for all children

School Lunches – if you are changing your child from school dinner to packed lunches or from packed lunches to school dinner please let the office know by 2pm on 1st April 2022.

Lost Property – all uniform needs to be clearly labelled with the child's full name and class. Unlabelled items will be put in the lost property box which is cleared out each Friday.

Important upcoming dates

01/04/2022 - Last day of term school - finishes at 2 p.m.

19/04/2022 - First day of the Summer Term

22/04/2022 -Y3 Trip to RAF

25/04/2022 - Y4 Trip to RAF

26/04/2022 - Y2 Trip to St Matthias Church

29/04/2022 - 4P Class Assembly

02/05/2022 - May Bank Holiday – school is closed

06/05/2022 -4G Class Assembly

13/05/2022 -3K Class Assembly

27/05/2022 - 3CH Class Assembly

30/5/2022 -03/06/2022 - Half term school closed

06/06/2022 - Staff Training Day – school closed

24/6/2022 – Summer Fayre

01/07/2022 – School closed for the Queen's Jubilee

Chinese New Year Dance Workshop



Year 3 & 4 were fortunate to participate in a Chinese Dragon dance workshop during Chinese New Year 2022.

The children had the opportunity to learn about three types of Chinese dances, an umbrella dance, a fan dance and the dragon dance. It was quite challenging to learn a dance whilst using props, but they all showed good co-ordination and teamwork.

The workshops culminated in a performance for the EYFS and KS1 children who were completely mesmerised by the Chinese Dragon as it floated past them!

It was an exciting and memorable day, where children were able to celebrate one of the many cultures in our school.

Here are some comments from the performers:

"I thought it was really good and I liked it because it was different to my country" - Ziyrah.

"I liked the Chinese New Year workshop, because I learnt how to dance and spin the umbrella" - David,

"I loved being the leader of the dragon" - Jerome

A big thank you to the Barnet & Culture for Youth Access Fund for funding the workshops.

Chinese New Year Lion Dance Performance



The KS2 children were treated to a Chinese New Year Lion Dance performance by the Bang Bang Lion Dance Team. There was loud drumming and impressive dancing. The children enjoyed the performance so much they wanted to watch it again and didn't want to go out to play, that was a first! Every KS2 child received a Chinese money envelope (hóngbāo) gift to mark the special occasion.

Thank you to the team at Bang Bang for organising the performance.

100 Years of Colindale mini-forest planting

On Friday 25th March (Red Nose Day) Ms Rodgers, Mrs Grigoriadou and the Eco Committee planted 15 saplings which had been donated to the school by the Woodland trust. There were 5 Rowan trees, 5 Crab Apple trees and 5 Maple trees.



The saplings were very small, so we planted them in the school garden, in a special 'nursery' where they will be safely looked after until they are strong and big enough to be planted in the main grounds of the school.

We all had great fun, planting the saplings, then watering them and ensuring they were safely covered with a special sleeve to protect them from any animals.

Over the next few years, we look forward to seeing them grow into mature trees.



Red nose Day

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who gave a donation for Red Nose Day, which this year was on Friday 18th March. We managed to raise a fantastic

£581.90! Well done everybody!



Science week

Science Week at school was an enormous success this year! We had around 300 parents and family members come and join us for our fun workshops!

Parents of **Nursery** children joined in with a variety of activities during science week. We made 'seed pods' by adding different seeds to a mixture of flour and water. This VERY sticky mixture was put into a small cardboard pot. The children took these home to plant in their garden or in a pot of soil...who knows what will grow? Hope it is not a beanstalk! We also did a 'floating flowers' investigation, to find out which paper made the best flower, floating on top of the water.



During the week **Reception** were visited by the farm! The outdoor classroom was set up as a holding pen with the farm animals. Each class visited the animals and were very excited as they had been learning about farms and farm animals in their classrooms. The workshop with parents was not in the same week but happened at another time. The children began their spring planting, getting the garden bed in the outdoor area ready. They planted potatoes, cress seeds and sunflowers. We can't wait to see them grow and flourish.



In **Year 1** the pupils made bubble wands with their families to find out if the shape of the bubble wand changed the shape of the bubble. Some of the pupils were fantastic at blowing bubbles and everyone had so much fun. We found out it doesn't matter what the shape of a bubble wand is, the bubble will always be a sphere!



Year 2 held their annual 'Make the tallest tower' competition. As in past years, this year was a nail-biting competition. The pupils and families were given newspaper, recycled paper and tape to construct a tower which would hold a cube up. Miss Parmar had to remind the families to let the pupils do some of the work as well! From very excited pupils to families standing on tables to make sure their tower got taller and taller, everyone had a fabulous time. Fantastic teamwork could be seen across the year group with pupils helping each other and adults working together with them. Even some very small family members got involved! The tallest towers did manage to touch the ceiling with one group in 2C creating their own Burj Khalifa!



Year 3 had so many family members that they took their science learning outside. They learnt how to take their pulse and about the effects of exercise on their bodies. The pupils and their families were carrying out star jumps, running up and down the field and checking to see how fast their heart was beating and their pulse was going! Everyone was exhausted by the end of that session.



In **Year 4** pupils and families worked through several different experiments. They made water walk; created rain in a cup and growing a rainbow. The children discussed each experiment and predicted what they thought would happen. The pupils really enjoyed the growing a rainbow and rain in a cup experiment. This could be seen by the expression on their faces and the sound of excitement coming out of every classroom!



Year 5 couldn't believe their luck when their teachers showed them, they were creating marshmallow catapults! Working in small groups with their families they used wooden skewers; blue tack; lolly sticks; rubber bands and of course marshmallows. There were small bits of marshmallow being flung in all directions and the pupils thought carefully about how the catapult would need to work. They had a contest to see who could create a catapult that would throw the marshmallows the furthest distance. Some were fantastic and managed to catapult the marshmallows as far as 3m. We also found a few parents who excelled at making the catapults!



In Year 6 the pupils and families were making slime! The pupils used flour, baking powder, PVA glue and contact lens solution. Though it was difficult they were determined to make it work with some pupils coming very close to making slime. As they were making the slime the teachers realised that they needed a different type of contact lens solution, however this did not deter the children. Like true scientists they thought about what the consistency of slime should be like and added ingredients which would help achieve that. Some pupils added shaving foam as this would make the smile foamy; they added flour in order to thicken the mixture and they added more contact lens solution as they knew this was the activator. The pupils loved just having fun with something messy and creating their own versions of slime!



Healthy Schools

As part of our effort to promote healthy eating, we participated in the **“Eat Them to Defeat them”** campaign. It is a great initiative which excites and inspires children to improve their diet for life.



From the beginning of March, each week children had the opportunity to taste a different vegetable along with their lunch. The featured vegetables were carrots, broccoli, tomatoes, and peas. The children who ate the featured vegetables earned a sticker. All children were also given an information booklet to take at home.



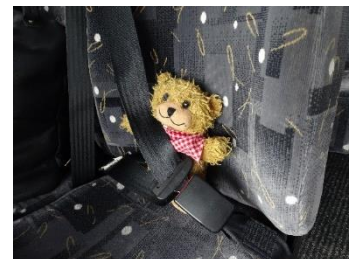
Rights Respecting

The Rights Champions have been set a task to do during the Easter break, to help prepare for an event which will take place after the holiday. We are going to do a '**DAY FOR CHANGE**' in May. Part of this will involve the Rights Champions helping to set up a collection of food and other items for the Colindale Foodbank. More details will be given after Easter.



Year 1 at Whipsnade Zoo

This month, the pupils in Year 1 visited Whipsnade Zoo as part of their topic on Animals. The pupils had been learning about animals living in different parts of the world, such as the African Savannah. This day gave them an opportunity to see these animals in real life. All the pupils and Jofli were very excited, as this was their first big trip out! We set off early



just as school began and arrived just as the zoo was opening. During the day, each class visited as many of the wonderful animals as they could. We learnt about endangered white rhinos We saw bright pink flamingos and tried to stand on



one foot just like them. We saw penguins splashing around in their pool and the lionesses came out to say hello (did you know they sleep for 21 hours a day?!). We watched the giraffes having their lunch; and even saw the 2 small crocodiles – one which began to swim towards us! It was a long day but a very exciting one. Jofli 1R said, "My favourite part was seeing the very friendly elephants. They were even playing with each other!" Shemiyah 1R said, "My favourite part was seeing all the animals we could. I really liked the lions." Sonny 1A said, "My best animal was the crocodile!" Mohammed Amine 1M said, "I loved the whole day. It was so much fun!"



Visiting farm in Reception

Reception were so excited to hear that farm animals would be coming to visit them during Science Week. They couldn't wait to see the animals and as they walked towards the outside classroom, they could hear all kinds of noises...baa, oink, woof!!



When they arrived, they were happy to see a variety of animals and two farmers. The first animal they met was a donkey called 'Dash'. They learned that donkeys sleep standing up.

Then they met a sheep and her lambs. They learned that sheep like to eat grass, but as the lambs were only a week old, they had to drink milk.



They met a pig called 'Twiglet' who was only one years old. They discovered that 'Twiglet' loves to roll around in the mud.

They also met brother and sister goats and learned that the goats had horns on their head to protect themselves.



They loved stroking the two fluffy rabbits and feeding them carrots and kale.

There was also a very friendly farm dog who enjoyed all the attention he was getting from the children.



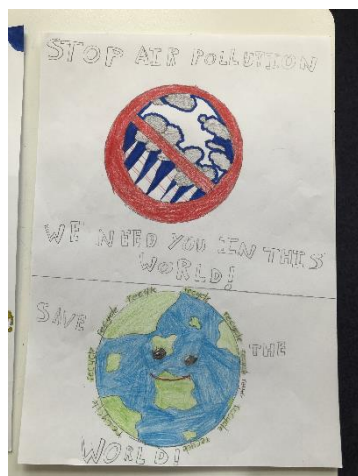
The children asked lots of interesting questions and found out so many facts about the farm animals.

It was a wonderful experience that the children won't forget for a long time to come.

Eco Schools

On the **14th and 21st March**, the **Year 4** children had the opportunity to take part in an **Air Quality project** run by Sustrans. In an interactive workshop, children were introduced to what air pollution is, what are its causes and effects on the environment and how we can prevent it. They learnt about what lichen is, what types of lichen there are and what this means to the air quality of the area we live in. Lichens are found on trees and are made up of two organisms living together, a fungus and an alga. They usually attach themselves to trees, but you can also find them on other surfaces, such as park benches. Lichens that are highly sensitive to air quality can be used to detect sources of pollution.

The children investigated the trees in the school grounds and identified the type of lichens they found. They also made their own posters to raise awareness on air pollution and what we can do to protect the environment and have better air quality.




Contribution from 2N

Below are three articles for this month's newsletter from 2N. They are all fantastically written recounts of a special day year 2 had, learning about South America. Well done to Akshyan, Pravva and Simon.

COLINDALE

Everyone in Year 2 had a fantastic day on Monday. We learnt about South America. We had three activities and one of them was cooking. We made Mexican burritos. We had two dishes, hot or cold. First we put our sleeves up and washed our hands. Then we started. I put on the onion on the board and then I put the cheese. Then I finished the burrito. It was a lady. Our next activity was to make a rainforest. We made groups. I made tall trees with toilet paper. The Amazon river was in Brazil.

I made used tissue paper to make the leaves. Next we made the Amazon river. Did you know that the river is the largest river in the world? I collected rocks so I could make rocks. The thing that I found difficult was the trees because pulling the branches was hard. The last activity was capoeira. We all started with balances. Then we did some animal shapes like monkey jumps, frog animal, spider animal, cat animal. Did you know that capoeira is a style of dance? My favourite activity was the capoeira activity because I like the taste of the burrito.




COLINDALE

Everyone in year 2 had a amazing day in Monday. We made beets to make beets. You have your chols of hot or hot. First we put chols on our beets. Later we add some pepers. But I like chols more. After I finish we can eat it. It was delicious. Our next activity was to make a rainforest. We used different materials. My group used reel grass to make the field of grass. We also used toilet roll to make trees.

I made the Amazon river with tissue paper. Did you know that this is the longest river in the world? We also used reel rocks. It was hard to stick the trees but it was easy to make the river. My favourite activity was making the rainforest because I liked using different materials.

COLINDALE NEWS

On Monday Everyone had a fantastic day. Year 2 learnt about South America and they made Mexico. They made a chol. Hot or cold. Boritos. I would choose Hot Boritos. Once we finished it we ate it. It was delicious. Our next activity was making a rainforest. Then we made the trees with toilet roll and green tissue paper. They made the grass using reel grass from our side and made the Amazon river. It is the longest river in the world. They made the rocks with the reel rocks and made them.



I just want to take this opportunity to wish everyone and restful, peaceful and enjoyable holiday!

