



Article of the month of March:

Every Child has the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have their basic needs met. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.



COLINDALE celebrates World Book Day!

Earlier on this month, the children of Colindale School celebrated World Book Day by taking part in various exciting activities based around stories.

First up was a fantastic show called 'Treasure Hunt' performed by West End in Schools theatrical company. The show took children on an adventure where they learnt about the importance of reading, looking after the environment and each other, as well as the power of friendship to bring us together. The children, and staff alike, said how they thoroughly enjoyed, and were engaged, by the performance.



Additionally, through your generous donations, we raised £315 for Book Aid, a charity that supplies books and reading materials around the world to children in need. Thank you for your support.

Following on from that, was World Book Day itself! The children and staff had fun dressing up as their favourite book characters for the day – everyone looked fabulous in their costumes. During the day the children took part in a range of exciting book-related activities such as lessons based upon stories; listening to a wide variety of books read to them; and finally they paired up with a buddy from a different class to read or be read to. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed themselves! The final event to end our celebrations of everything about books, was our regular visit by the Travelling Book Fair. This was again a great success and we took a fabulous total of £1003 which has helped us to raise money towards free books for our school library. Thank you to all those parents who visited the book fair and helped us to provide new books for the library.



Lisa Dray, Library Leader

Attendance awards

In March the following class won the Colindale **Gold Attendance Award** for the highest attendance: 1PA, 1C, 2J

twice and 4J 3 times!!

Well done!

4R also won the **Super Gold Attendance Award** twice for an amazing 100% attendance with no lates

FANTASTIC!!

WELL DONE!



It gives me great pleasure to write to you again on behalf of **Colindale School Governing Board.**



We had a most interesting and enjoyable Learning Walk during science week. The governors had the opportunity to visit all year groups throughout the school. We were warmly welcomed by the children, volunteers, support staff and teachers. Visits to all classrooms proved very informative and we found out many aspects of learning and teaching science. Children were happy to talk about their investigations. We were impressed by the way children worked together by listening to each other, supporting each other and sharing ideas. As we have come to expect of Colindale pupils, the behaviour we saw was exemplary. Please let your children know how impressed we are. We would like to thank all staff for giving us time to talk to them and their children. And a huge thank you to Miss Thompson for organising this visit. *Sheila Franks (Chair Of Governors)*

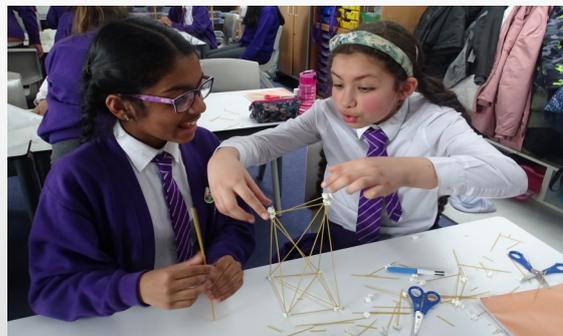
Every year our pupils take part in **British Science Week** which is always held in March. British Science Week is a national event, run by the British Science Association. It is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths.

This year parents were invited to take part in a science activity with their children. The activities included



building the tallest towers using only sticky tape and newspaper; making bubble wands; joining in very vigorous exercises; testing the pitch of different length straws; and planting seeds in Reception. Over 150 parents joined in the fun activities over the week.

During the week all topic lessons were based on science. The teachers ensured that over the week there were many practical activities which supported the development of the pupils' scientific knowledge and understanding. Having visited many classes during the week it was wonderful to see such a high level of enthusiasm and interest in science. On the Tuesday our



governors also visited with a focus on science. They were wowed and impressed by what they saw across the school. For example, in Year 2 they watched as pupils built different paper aircraft models and flew them to test which would go the furthest and in Year 5 they saw pupils building structures out of marshmallows and dry spaghetti!

Nisha Parma (AHT)



In their **science lessons year 6** have been learning about how animals have adapted to their habitats. On their recent **visit to London Zoo**, they took the opportunity to view a huge variety of species, including reptiles, butterflies, lemurs, gorillas, penguins and big cats. They were asked to consider how well the enclosures the zoo



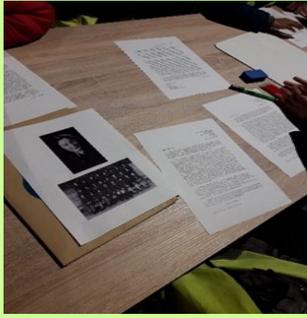
provides are suited to a particular species' needs. In relation to their topic, all classes visited the Rainforest Life exhibit, set up like a real forest with the characteristic hot, humid conditions. There they saw many rainforest inhabitants such as a sloth, tamarins, spider monkeys and iguanas. They also enjoyed a midday show in the amphitheatre, where a variety of animals showed off their skills: some amazingly flexible ferrets running through pipe; a hissing cockroach which the children were able to touch if they wanted to and a magnificent eagle owl, which flew silently over the heads of the audience.



Since returning from the zoo, the children have been able to draw upon their experiences by writing a balanced argument based on the question, 'Should Zoos be banned?' *Sarah Robertson (AHT)*

Our Colindale sports' teams are having a fantastic season so far! The Boys' football team have ended the season on a high with wins against Edgware (3-2) and Goldbeaters (3-1) and narrowly losing to The Orion just 1-0! They are excitedly waiting to see where they have finished in the league. The Girls' football team had qualified through to the Barnet borough finals back in February. At the finals they played some of their best football but unfortunately did not qualify to represent Barnet at the London games. The girls' are waiting to play their last league game soon. Our Tag rugby team have been training really well and recently played The Hyde. Despite trying their best they unfortunately lost 7-1. Coach Michael is very proud of all the teams and has seen some great progress over the season! *Lianne Nuttall (PE & Sports Leader)*



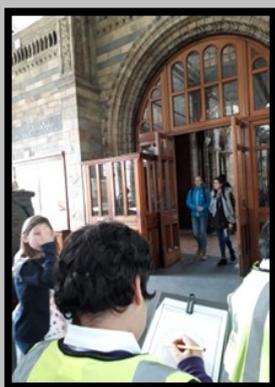


Last week all of year 5 went to the RAF Museum to learn about 'Sky Writing'. Over the years, the RAF have collected different historical accounts by serving RAF personnel about their experiences during peace and war time. After the war had ended, planes and pilots were redundant and many wanted to continue flying. A special smoke was invented at the RAF base in Hendon. This smoke hung in the air and pilots were exceptionally skilled in flying and so learned to use the smoke to 'Sky Write'. In the beginning the messages were just advertising. As writing is an important method of documenting events through history, the RAF began

collecting messages, letters, postcards, newspapers and diaries etc. to have first-hand accounts of events. Year 5 had the chance to look at some of these written documents from the early 20th century to present day. We discussed how the written documents make things more realistic and puts events into context. We had to pretend to be pilots writing home to our loved one. We had a choice to write old fashioned 'air mail' letters, post cards, or journals. Later we were able to visit the main museum to look at historical artefacts and pretend to be pilots!
Ameeta Majevalia (Class teacher)



Year 5's Trip to The Natural History Museum Year 5 have started a very exciting adventure into the world of architecture. As part of our Art and DT lessons we have started to look at buildings, their structure and why they are designed and built in the way they are. As part of the Architecture in Schools Programme, we had to choose an area of Colindale to redevelop. We decided as a year group on Edgware Road, Colindale. We have looked at road plans and photographs of the area and together drew out our ideas (first draft) for redevelopment. We then went to meet Architects from Sheppard Robson Architects who met us at the Natural History Museum. They chose this building as it is



structurally breath-taking and has many old and new features, something we want to bring to the redevelopment of Edgware Road; keeping some of the old and bringing in the new. On our trip we learnt about how and why the building is the way it is and we sketched some architectural features to bring back to school for our redevelopment drawings. We cannot wait to use what we learned on the trip to create our second draft of our plans for Edgware Road. The architects will be coming into visit our school after the Easter Holidays, where we will then go on site (Edgware Road) to explain our vision to them and retrieve even more ideas on how we can make our local area even more amazing.
Lisa Thompson (PSHE Leader)



I want to say a big **Thank you** to the **Parents and Staff Association (PSA)** who once again organised an excellent event for the children of Colindale to enjoy. Our annual **Film Night** was attended by over 250 children, raised over £750 for the school and every one of the children who attended, had fun! The film *Transylvania 3* had been chosen by the children and was enjoyed by all. 'Fantastic!' 'Really funny!' were a couple of the comments I heard from the children as they got ready to be collected by their parents. There are more PSA events coming up soon: The **EYFS party for Reception children on 2nd April** and the annual **Summer Fair on 21st June for everyone**. PSA meetings are held on Tuesday's after school. A text is always sent out; so next time you get a text and would like to join in, please come along to the school office— help is always welcome!

