

# Colindale Primary School Newsletter

## November 2018



Article of the month: 24—Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy.



I am sad to say, this term we will be saying a fond farewell to three fantastic members of staff — Mrs O'Regan, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs Jarman—who are all leaving Colindale for pastures new. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all their hard work and in wishing them well for the future.



We raised £408 for Children in Need!!!

Thank you to all who came to school in spotty clothes and donated £1.



**Anti-bullying Week** To kick start our Anti Bullying week we had a visit from the NSPCC, who spoke to us about how bullying is a form of abuse and that it is not ok. The children learnt about how to keep themselves safe and to always speak out, to a trusted adult. In PSHE children

NSPCC

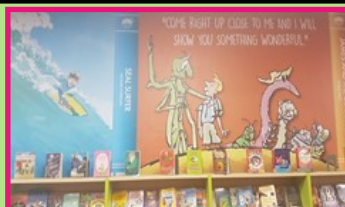


throughout the school have been learning what bullying is, how to prevent it, what to do if they witness it and the effects bullying can have on us; on our physical and our mental health. To promote that, we as a school are a no bullying zone. Children from year 1 to 6 entered a poster competition to spread the message



of no bullying, loudly and clearly around our school. The poster competition winners will be announced and celebrated during *Well Done* assembly and their posters enlarged and displayed around the school.

We also took part in **Odd Sock Day on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**, as a way to celebrate that we are all different and unique but equal! It was great seeing so many children and staff wearing odd socks! *Miss Thompson, PSHE Leader*



### COLINDALE LIBRARY GETS A MAKEOVER!

Last month our school library had a

magnificent upgrade, with lots of wonderful pieces of wall art added to the walls to create a vibrant and stimulating environment for reading and enjoying books. The journey to the finished piece has been a long one, which began a year ago when the decision was made to improve the library setting. Some companies, who create wall art images, were invited to put forward their proposals and, through assemblies and classroom surveys, the children contributed suggestions of their favourite books and characters. A 'wish list' was then compiled of the children's ideas, which included such books as Harry Potter, Alice in Wonderland and Where the Wild Things Are. Once the final images had been decided upon, all of the book publishers had to be contacted to give their permission for the pictures to be used in the library. This was a very long process, but everyone was relieved when we finally had the 'go-ahead' to have the wall art installed. Hooray! I am sure that you will agree that the library now looks absolutely fantastic; the children love the finished look and are now even more eager to spend time reading their favourite books in the school library. *Ms Dray*

### Attendance awards

In November the following class won the *Colindale Gold Attendance Award* for the highest attendance:

**2N, 2J, 3B, 3N, 6K, 5DM & 2P won it twice—well done!**

**6N, 1C, 4M, 3N and 4J** also won the *Super Gold Attendance Award* for an amazing 100% attendance with no lates **FANTASTIC!!**

**WELL DONE!**





## Walk to School Month was a huge success!

**421 children** (73% of our children in KS1/2) walked/cycled/scooted to school at least 3 times every week in October; thus gaining their WOW badge. The winning classes, with the most sustainable journeys were announced by our Eco Councillor, Azana, in *Well Done* assemblies. The winners are:

**2J** - 29 of the children achieving their badge (586 sustainable journeys!)

**4R** - 25 of the children achieving their badge (507 sustainable journeys!)

**6T** - 25 of the children achieving their badge (507 sustainable journeys!)

The above classes received the **eco trophy** and will go onto the wall of fame on the eco board.

We will take part in *Walk to School month* annually—every October. **WELL DONE COLINDALE!!**



**Homework update.** As I am sure you are fully aware, we have spent this term consulting staff, children, parents & governors regarding how we should develop homework at Colindale. At the end of September we held two, well attended meetings for parents and followed this up with a questionnaire which closed on the 9th November and to which 100 parents responded. The vast majority of parents who took part think that homework is important and can support their children with homework. Over 90% of parents who responded to the survey and all the children, staff and governors we spoke to, expressed their enthusiasm for a dedicated home work page on the school website, where different subjects, tasks and activities can be accessed from

home; our trial of *Mathletics* - an on-line maths resource - proving to be very popular indeed. We are now developing this and aim for the *Home Learning* page to go 'live' in January. We will let you know when this is set up and give your children the passwords they will need to access parts of it.



## Collecting for Colindale Food Bank

For the last few weeks, we have been

collecting food for our local food bank located in Trinity Church on Avion Crescent, which we donate to annually. Last year we collected a staggering amount of items, 736, the most ever! We HAD to beat that number *this year!* We had our annual Harvest Assembly, which 6N led, promoting the collection for Colindale Food bank. Their assembly explained how vital the food bank is for people in our community, how we have helped and how we can continue to help. This assembly, posters around the school and our challenge of beating last year's items led us to collecting....**752 items!!!** The generosity from the children, their families and the staff has been amazing. Thank you to everyone who donated! As a school we will continue to look for ways of helping others, in our community and in the wider world. *Miss Thompson, PSHE & Eco School Leader*



**School lunches:** If your child is currently having school dinners and, after the Christmas break, wishes to change to packed lunches or vice versa, please inform the

school office by **21st December** at the very latest. Children can only change at the start of a new half term - so after a holiday— and the office must be informed before the start of the holiday. If you fail to notify the school office, you will still be charged for school dinners or, if you are changing to school dinners a lunch will not be prepared for your child. A letter will be sent out by the 7<sup>th</sup> December giving details of charges for the Spring Term. If you would like your child to start having school dinners you need to complete the form and return it to the school office. School dinners **must** be paid in advance via Parent Pay. If you have not yet activated your account can you please do so ASAP. If you have any queries please call the school office for assistance.



On Thursday 15th November, 12 excellent swimmers from school took part in the **Barnet Schools Championships**. With the help of Mrs Jarman and one of the parents, we went to Barnet Copthall Leisure Centre. There were 13 schools in our category. Each of the swimmers took part in an individual race as well some team relays - and they swam fantastically!! Overall we finished 6th out of 13. What an amazing result! Thank you to all the parents who have been dropping their children to the morning swimming club sessions. And well done again to Nalin (4M),

Andreea (4M), Sana H (4R), Jiyan (4J), Cheri (4J), Boris (4R), Chloe (5T), Yasmin (6T), Sienna (6N), Andrew (6N), Noah (6N), and Edwin (6N). *Ms Fernandes (Swimming teacher)*



This month **Year 1** were invited to visit the **Colindale Gardens development site** by the company Redrow. On each visit, the children were given a short talk about the materials used in building the homes and flats. This tied in well, as our Science this half term is materials and their properties. The children were able to share what they knew about materials well. As well as this, children were able to look at the model replica of what the site will look like when it is completely



finished in 10 years' time! This was fascinating for them, as they had never seen anything like it. Then they took the children to the roof top gardens where they could see

the building work going on. They were able to spot different machines such as diggers, dumper trucks and the cranes, which were all working at that time. They were very interested to find out how people got into the cranes and to see them in operation. At the end of each class's visit, Redrow gave every child a small goody bag as thanks for visiting their site. Each class enjoyed the visit and were able to learn about the changes going on in their local area. *Ms. Parmar (Assistant Head)*

**Year 3 and 4** started the half term with their open lessons in maths. We had a great turn out of parents in both year groups, who said afterwards that it was



really helpful to see how we teach maths in class and that they felt more able to help their children at home.

Both open lessons focused on using different practical and visual methods to solve calculations. Parents were given handouts to support them to continue to help their child at home. These can be found on our new home learning page coming soon!

Next term we will focus on handwriting strategies. We look forward to seeing you there! *Susie Averbroom (AHT)*



### FRIENDSHIP PARTY - THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER

To coincide with anti-bully week, the PTA held a friendship party which was our first event for the new academic year. There was an amazing turnout of children and everyone had so much fun playing party games, dancing and of course eating pizza. There was also a competition for best boy and best girl dancer for each party. The winners were: Jerome Y3, Julia Y3, David Y5 and Saraya Y6. Well done to all of you, you were fantastic!

We had a lot of parent and carer volunteers at this event and it was lovely to see a few dads helping out as well. We would also like to take

this opportunity to say a big 'Thank You' to all the parents and staff that volunteered their time in making this event a success. Without your valued support we could not run these events and it is very much appreciated. *Mrs. Grossi (PTA Chair)*



Year 3 and 4 children were given the opportunity to write a letter to the Prime Minister Teresa May, on behalf of the charity **War Child**. They were giving persuasive reasons as to why government funding should be spent helping children in war torn countries— 1 in 6 children live in countries where there is conflict. Several of our children's well written letters were quoted in the Evening standard. Follow this link to read the article:

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/learntolive/pupils-deliver-petition-to-downing-street-with-12000-pleas-to-help-children-escape-war-traumas-a3994581.html>