

Colindale Primary School Newsletter

October 2021



Messages from the school office

Uniform – Please ensure you label all items of uniform, coats/jackets, gloves, hats and scarves for your child(ren). Our lost property box is in the reception area of the main office and is emptied each Friday afternoon.

ParentPay – please make sure you clear any monies outstanding for lunches, trips or workshops. If you have any problems with your ParentPay account, please come to the school office.

Individual Photos – will happen on the 4th November. If you have not done so already, please renew your permission for photo and video consent via the Weduc message that was sent last week. No permission will mean no photograph.

Medical Appointments – every day matters in school, and we ask parents to book dental appointments and non-emergency medical appointments for the school holidays.

Absences – if your child is going to be off school due to illness you must call the school office or report the absence via Weduc before 9 a.m.

Important future dates

1st November – Inset Day – Children not at school

2nd November – Inset Day – Children not at school

3rd November – Children return to school after half term

4th November – Individual Photos

8th November – Y4 trip to Verulamium Museum

11th November – Y2 trip to London Eye and river boat cruise

12th November – 6R Assembly in hall

19th November – 5B Assembly in hall

26th November – 5J Assembly in hall

Greetings from Nursery.

We had a very busy start to the autumn term, settling everyone in. There have been some tears, but many children have settled really quickly.

It isn't easy to leave your parents at the door, but the children have managed so well, and we are very proud of them.

During this term, our focus is on learning about following nursery routines – a VERY important part of nursery life.

Sharing, making friends, joining in, using resources correctly, good sitting and listening during story sessions and MOST important of all – how to tidy up once we hear the bell!

Nursery is always a busy place, as you can see in the photographs.



Let's make music and dance!



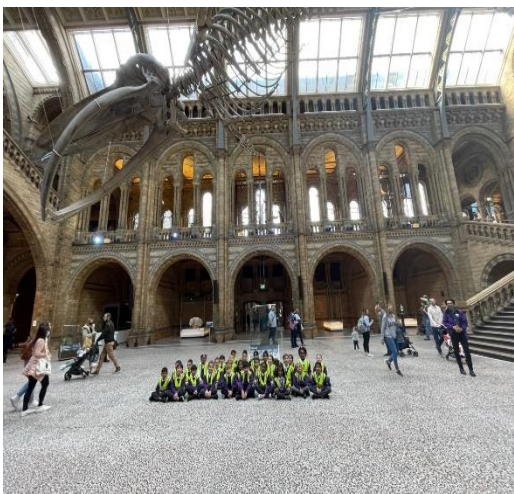
Run, run as fast as you can!



Year 3 Natural History Museum trip

Year 3 have had a busy Autumn Term being archaeologists and researching all about the Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age. The children discovered how people lived in the Stone Age, how life was developed in the Bronze Age and Iron Age. The children explored many artefacts of what people in the past looked like and how humans have changed over time.

In Science, Year 3 have been learning about rocks, soils and fossils. During the trip they saw lots of different types of Igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks. It was interesting to learn about what causes a volcano to erupt and the damage it can cause. The highlight of the trip was looking at the fossils of different species of dinosaurs. It was fascinating to see a very realistic model of the T-REX!!



Harvest Festival collection for the food bank

Colindale Foodbank appeal 2021



At this time of year, the children are learning about Harvest time and how it is celebrated in the UK. This is traditionally the time when people give thanks for the food provided by farmers and gardeners.

As part of this we have once again run the Colindale Foodbank appeal. It has been amazing to see the number of items donated by our families. The wide range of goods sent in was gratefully received by the foodbank volunteers.



How it started.....



How it ended



The newly elected 'Rights Champions' were very helpful when it came to packing the 100s of items into boxes and bags – thank you”

Many thanks to everyone who supported this excellent and necessary appeal.

Thank you,

Mrs McDonough and Mrs Grigoriadou

Switch off day 2021

On 11th October, we had our annual **Switch-Off** day as part on the national Switch-off fortnight. It is a day that we keep our electrical devices such as lights, computers, smart boards, and printers switched off to remind us to save energy and protect our planet. The children enjoyed being taught in a sustainable way without the use of electricity, such as singing a cappella in our weekly singing assembly instead of using musical instruments. Our hard effort paid off, as we managed to save **43.75%** on electricity! We have even beaten our best switch-off day record in 2019, which was 39%. What an achievement! Well done Colindale! (Andrea Grigoriadou, Eco Leader)



Parent Champions Information and Snack Sale

Your **Colindale Parent Champions** put on a fabulous event on Tuesday 19th October. They gave out information to parents about what is going on in the local area during half term; the local children centres; and how to apply for a 30 hours nursery place. This information will also be sent out on Weduc.

They also made some **amazing** food which raised an astounding **£276** for local charities and for the school. **Great work Parent Champions!**



Mrs Averbrook and Mrs Choonara

Year 6 RAF Museum workshops

As part of our topic on WW2, Year 6 went on a trip to take part in a workshop in order to experience what school was like in the 1940s. The children enjoyed sitting at traditional desks, learning from a chalkboard, and using an ink pen and inkwell to record their learning.

The children learnt about what schooling was like during the Blitz and about how short they were of resources, such as books. They learnt about how children protected themselves under their desks during air raids and how children were prepared for evacuation to travel to the safety of the countryside.

Back at school, Year 6 used everything they had learnt to write a non-chronological report about schooling in the 1940s. Here is an extract from one of our reports.

School During World War Two

During WW2, most children had very small amounts of resources. Some schools were closed due to air raids. A stove was kept near the front of the class to keep warm in the winter. However, some children who sat in the back of the class could not feel the heat.

What were 1940s teachers like?

Although planes were dropping bombs, teachers would not let that disrupt their lessons. Teaching strategies have changed over the past 75 years. Teachers wore a black cloak over their clothes. They expected the utmost best from their students and if a child was not listening, paying attention or smudged their work, they would be caned on their hand.

Written by: Noreen Ahnoud & Mirela Garneva 6N



Road Safety

Did you know that a driver can see a pedestrian 3 seconds sooner if they are wearing or carrying something bright or reflective? That's enough to prevent serious injury or save a life!



The clocks go back on October 31st this year, meaning that evenings become dark much earlier and it becomes more difficult for drivers to see pedestrians.

Whilst we want children to get out and about more and have active healthy lifestyles, we also want them to be safe!

Help your child **Be Bright** so they can **Be Seen** by making sure they are wearing something bright for daytime AND reflective for night time.

If you are buying a new coat for your child, look out for brightly coloured ones with reflective strips.

For more information and support, please email: Road.safety@barnet.gov.uk

Be Bright, Be Seen and Be Safe!



May we take this opportunity to wish all our Colindale families a safe, happy, restful and fun half term break.