

Colindale Primary School Newsletter September 2023

September Article 28 – Education

Every child has the right to a good education, to be treated with dignity when in school and have the choice of different secondary schools.

Dear Families,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year.



At this time, we particularly welcome families who have just joined the school community. We are always pleased to welcome not only our new Nursery & Reception pupils, but also children transferring to our school into other year groups.

Please remember that class teachers are in the playground with classes at the end of each day. There are always senior members of staff in the playground each morning and afternoon if you need to see us.

I would also like to personally thank you all for giving me such a warm welcome to the school – it has been lovely meeting so many of you on the gate and in the playground before and after school. Thank you to those who also attended the ‘meet the new headteacher’ morning a few weeks ago so I could share my educational philosophy and vision for Colindale. As I said then, this is a truly special and unique school and I feel very privileged to be leading it.

Our Ofsted report has finally been published, after they visited in July. It confirms what we already knew... Colindale continues to be a good school! The recommendations from the report will be used to form whole School Development Plan moving forwards. The full report is available for you to read on the school website: [Ofsted - Colindale Primary School](#)

This is a bumper edition of the newsletter – as we already have so much to share with you. Enjoy reading!

Best wishes

Mrs Jane Palmer
Headteacher



Attendance awards for this month

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) -None



Gold (highest attendance, but below 100%)- 4P



Silver (second highest attendance)- 3G



Bronze (3rd highest attendance) – 3N, 4G

Well done to all the winners!

Attendance message:

It is incredibly important that your child attends school every day - unless they are unwell. Please note that leave of absence will not be granted during school time, except in exceptional circumstances. Your child/ren only attend school for 190 days a year, out of 365, therefore we expect families to not book holidays, make appointments etc during this time. Absence from school has both a negative academic impact and a social impact on your child.

Attendance & Achievement

95-100%	Best Chance of Success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity
90-95%	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child might have to spend time catching up on work.
85-90%	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child might be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support in order to catch up.
80-85%	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant negative impact on their learning.
80-85%	At least 7 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are

Free School Meals for all Primary Aged Pupils in London

All pupils in Reception – Year 6 are entitled to a FREE school meal, thanks to additional funding from the Mayor of London.

This could save families £500 a year!

Shopping and planning for packed lunches every week costs both time and money. With a school meal you can not only make a big saving to your weekly food shop but also be assured that your child is getting both the goodness and nutrition that will help fuel them throughout their day.

Please contact the office for more details



Rights Respecting Schools and Harvest Collection

Thank you to Mrs McDonough for all her hard work and dedication to Colindale in achieving the **Gold** award for our school. She has left some big boots to fill and I will do my best to continue her hard work! September has been busy for our children settling into new classes, learning about their rights and creating their class charters. The end of the month also brings about electing their new representatives for Rights Champions!

October begins our Harvest celebrations and as always, Colindale will have their bi-annual Foodbank Collections. If you are able to donate any tinned goods, toiletries or dried goods, the foodbank would be very grateful.

We will be accepting food donations from 2nd - 16th October.

Thank you, Miss McCague



Black History Month 2023

October sees the arrival of Black History Month and the theme this year is 'Saluting our Sisters', celebrating the exceptional achievements of black women. Pupils in each year group will learn about Black History through the curriculum. For example, this could be through writing in English or through history. There will also be themed assemblies celebrating black history and culture.





Eco and Healthy Schools



Being an Eco school, we always strive to do our best to support our fragile planet and tackle climate change. We are proud of our recycling and would like to carry on this year as well. We have battery, clothes, paper and plastic, writing instruments and textile recycling. Please bring your used batteries, clothes and shoes in good condition and any kind of pens so that they can be recycled. The battery bin is in the main entrance opposite the office, the textile bin is in the field by the gate and the writing instruments can be given to the children as the recycling bins are outside of the classrooms.



In October, we celebrate WALK TO SCHOOL month as part of the International Walk to School month. This year we can make our streets better for nature by turning our walk into a street safari! Let's see how many animals, plants, or fungi you can spot on your way to school. Please encourage your child to walk, cycle, scoot or wheel to school for a month and enjoy the benefits of exercising and keeping fit.



In our next newsletter we will start posting the **Recipe of the month** articles. All recipes are adopted from ProVeg UK and are plant based and nutritious.

Thank you, Mrs Grigoriadou

No Dogs... a polite reminder that dogs are not allowed on site at any time. Thank you

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the year group meetings at the beginning of this term. The presentations from these meetings are now up on the school website:

[Welcome to a New Year - Colindale Primary School](#)

Little Rainbows

In Little Rainbows we've been settling in our new children. They are doing very well, exploring the new environment confidently, and we are very proud of them.

The children have been taking part in activities both inside and outside. Some of the activities that they enjoy are painting, drawing, moulding in play dough, filling and emptying containers in the water tray, digging in the sandpit and exploring the outdoor equipment. Also, they enjoyed singing familiar nursery rhymes on the carpet and joining in with actions and phrases.



The children have been also learning our nursery routine, washing their hands, hanging their coats, sharing and turn-taking with their peers and using the resources appropriately. Also, they were introduced to our carpet rules of good sitting, good listening, eyes looking and lips closed with the help of visuals.



Celebrating extra-curricular achievements

At Colindale Primary School, we believe in a holistic education – one that embraces and supports extra-curricular activities that help shape your children into well-rounded, fantastic human beings!

We know that many pupils attend clubs outside of school and are achieving great things, and we would like to celebrate them. If your child has recently won a medal / award / grading etc from something they do outside of school, please let your child's class teacher know and we will mention them in our newsletters.



Year 6 Shakespeare Workshop

Year 6 were treated to a performance of Macbeth, one of Shakespeare's most famous tragedies. Some of the children even had the opportunity to play some of the characters! "The Macbeth workshop was amazing; the actors really showcased the play well and there was so many characters but only four actors. I understand and know the play so well, thanks to them. The whole thing was very interesting and so fun to watch." Nadira 6R



The performance was both engaging and thought-provoking, and the children were captivated by the story of Macbeth's ambition and downfall. "The workshop was very interesting as it captured every moment of the play. It was well-acted. The actors played their different roles with expression and created intense suspense." Asia and Karim 6B

In class, the children have been using their knowledge of the story to write descriptive scenes using Shakespearean phrases. They have produced some truly impressive work, which demonstrates their understanding of the play and their creativity with language.



Everyone was laughing and talking so loud as if they were. The roasted hog from the mountains of Scotland sat there waiting for the men to viciously devour it. The wine enchanted the men to a clumsy dance as the music was played gracefully. Exotic fruits from the jungles of Peru were there on a plate.

After every morsel of food had vanished from the king's platter, he announced, "Lords and ladies, you have been united and loyal to me, following me into battle no matter the circumstance. I have come to thank one person in particular, Macbeth!" the crowd roared like lions.

Aqarshan 6N

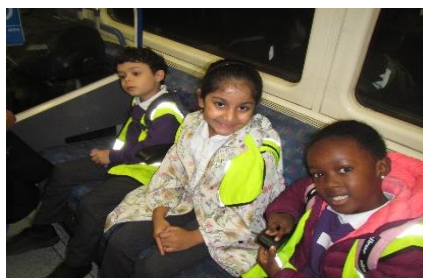
Year 6 RAF Museum Trip

In Year 6, students received a special invitation to visit the RAF Museum for the launch of Dermot O'Leary's latest children's novel, 'Wings of Glory.' The children were treated to a captivating excerpt from the novel. Following this, they had the opportunity to participate in a character-drawing activity, guided by the illustrator, and to meet the author. Children who had previously purchased the book had their copies signed by him.



Year 2 London Trip

Year 2 children visited Central London. The children travelled on the underground train. Once they got there, the children went on the London Eye and liked seeing many different landmarks they had learnt about in class such as Buckingham Palace, The Shard and Big Ben. Afterwards, the children went on a boat ride down the river Thames where they went under Tower Bridge, saw The Tower of London and enjoyed waving at all the tourists on the bridges and on other boats. Luckily, it did not rain, and everyone had a great time! They even enjoyed running to catch the last train back to school.



Messages from the school office

School Uniform - Uniform supplier called is Smith Schoolwear. You can order online by clicking on [Colindale Primary School | Smiths Schoolwear](#). If you have questions, please call the school office.

Arbor – if you have not activated your account, please do so ASAP. If you have problems with your account, please come to the school office. We are a cash free school. **All communication and payments are now done through Arbor**, we no longer use Weduc or ParentPay.

In-App Message – If you respond to an In-App message in Arbor please make it clear which message you are responding to.

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:

Friday 6 th October	4P Class Assembly – Black History Month
Friday 13 th October	4G Class Assembly – Rights Respecting School
Monday 16 th October	Year 5 Trip to the Science Museum
Friday 20 th October	4H Class Assembly – Topic
Monday 23 rd October - Friday 27 th October	Half Term - School Closed
Tuesday 31 st October	Year 6 trip to RAF Museum
Tuesday 31 st October	Year 6 - Secondary School Application deadline
Wednesday 1 st November	Year 3 Trip to Epping Forest – Stone Age Survival
Thursday 2 nd November	Individual School Photos
Friday 3 rd November	5J Class Assembly – Topic
Friday 10 th November	5T Class Assembly – Armistice Day
Thursday 15 th – Friday 17 th November	Year 5 and 6 Residential - Hindleap Warren
Friday 17 th November	5M Class Assembly – Children in Need
Monday 20 th November	Flu Nasal Spray Vaccinations for Reception – Y6 pupils
Friday 24 th November	6N Class Assembly – Eco Theme
Monday 27 th Nov – Friday 1 st December	Book Fair
Friday 1 st December	6R Class Assembly – Topic
Thursday 7 th December	Year 5 Trip to the Chickenshed Theatre
Friday 8 th December	6B Class Assembly – Hanukkah
Friday 15 th December	2A Class Assembly – Christmas
Thursday 21 st December	Last day of term
Friday 22 nd Dec – Friday 5 th January	School Holidays – School Closed
Monday 8 th January 2024	Staff INSET - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	All pupils return to school