

## School Council Visit to the Houses of Parliament

By Nicole Court, 6V

We made our journey by train and got off at Waterloo station. Then we walked through London (observing the London Eye and Big Ben along the way!) "Standing outside The Palace of Westminster was amazing," said Ayan from 5B. Alysha (also from 5B) stated that "While we were standing outside the building, Big Ben chimed 9.30."

We walked in through a double door entrance named The Educational Centre and we were scanned to make sure we were clear of metal. After a while we were allowed to enter the heart of Parliament, where two large doors stood.

First my group had a tour of the House of Lords, whereas the others examined the House of Commons. Later on, we were led into a room where we were treated to a fun workshop, hosted by a woman named Nicola.

Before our extraordinary day came to an end we had our delicious lunches and came back to school.



### Uniform (From reception to year 6)

It has been brought to my attention that some children are coming to school not wearing the correct school uniform, so here is a reminder of what it is:

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore.
- For reception, years 1 and 2- a white shirt or polo shirt.
- For Year 3 upwards - a white shirt and tie.
- Colindale School sweatshirt, V neck jumper or cardigan—all year groups.
- Grey or white socks or tights. (Leggings may not be worn.)
- Plain black shoes. Boots may be worn to school on wet or cold days, but may NOT be worn in school. Children MUST bring their school shoes to change into.
- If your daughter covers her head for religious reasons, please provide a head covering in the school colour (purple). This should be plain without decoration.
- Outdoor wear – you can buy a school, fleece lined waterproof or showerproof coat and hat from the school office. Other coats should be in plain, dark colours, warm and waterproof with a hood.
- Children will also need a scarf and gloves for cold weather.
- Ties, fleeces, book bags, P.E bags and hats for winter and summer are available from the school



### Other news

I hope you will join me in congratulating **Miss Salmon** (Reception teacher) who got married last weekend and wish her all the happiness in the world. She has taken her husbands name and is now called Mrs Wate.

I am also pleased to announce that our new school **website** is live . The address is

[www.colindale.barnet.sch.uk](http://www.colindale.barnet.sch.uk)

We will be adding to it and im-

proving it in the coming weeks and would really value your feedback. Let us know what you think of it– what you like and what else you would like from it.

Just a reminder about **punctuality**. It is really important that children arrive on time everyday, ready to start lessons on time. Please make sure you leave home allowing enough time so your children are not late. Thank you.

### **Packed Lunch Policy.**

Last week we introduced our new, healthy Packed Lunch Policy. Thank you to all those Parents & Carers who have taken it on board. The response has been great, with our children's packed lunches full of healthy food. The children are really enjoying them too. So thank you!



### Nursery News

We have recently overhauled the mud kitchen in the nursery to make it more physically challenging for the children. We have added jugs and a kettle which can be heavy when full. A jerry can with a tap and tweezers for fine motor development. We have also added mixed herbs to make the experience more sensory. Mrs Jane Morris (Nursery teacher)



### Cameras by the school entrances

Just so you are aware, the Local Authority have placed cameras to monitor the yellow zig-zag lines outside our school gates. Some fines have already been given out, so please be careful where you drop off your children. Do not stop or park between the zig-zag lines and you won't get a ticket!



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### Site Safety

As you will remember, last term just before we broke up for the Christmas holiday, a stranger was seen in the playground at the end of the school day by Woodfield gate. This was reported to the police, who came and spoke to me.

I have heard nothing since, but if the police do get back to me, I will let you know.

### Open Phonics Lessons in Reception.

The school's first *Open Lessons* for parents were a real success. Reception parents were invited to come into class to watch the class teachers teach a phonics lesson, then they had the opportunity to join in with the small group phonics activities with their children. Many reception parents commented on how useful the open lessons were and how they felt more confident to help with their child's learning at home.

Open lessons are an excellent way for parents to see their child's learning in action. We will be holding more open lessons this term in reception and in other year groups. We hope to see you there.

Mrs Emma Hurn (Assistant Head)

### Art in year 1

Children in Year 1 had an art workshop with a company called *Big Foot Arts Education*. Over the course of three mornings each class worked with an artist to create different types of permanent and transient art. The children understood that some art pieces would remain at school on display and some they would be able to take home. The theme was animals. Each class worked slightly different to create fish, cows and birds. They practised different skills such as cutting, sticking, joining and sketching to create small pieces of art. The pupils also used the skills of painting and printing to create large parts of a fish body. These parts were then joined together and now hang in the classrooms and around the infant area on display. The artist encouraged the children to create in any way they liked, for example thinking about birds but using lines and colour to create their own version. Working with *Big Foot Arts Education* was a wonderful opportunity. All the children enjoyed working with a real artist who inspired them all to become artists too! Ms Nisha Parmar (Assistant Headteacher)



### Important dates coming up

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb - Year 5 to Science Museum.  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb - 3T Class Assembly 9.15am  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Parent Consultation evening 3.30pm - 5.30pm  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb - Young Voices Concert at the O2  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Parent Consultation evening 3.30pm - 7.30pm  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb - 3D Class Assembly 9.15am  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - HALF TERM  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb - Staff Training Day (No school for children)  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb - Year 4 Trip to the British Museum  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - 3P Class Assembly 9.15am  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb - Year 3 Open Writing Lesson 9.00am