

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for making me feel so welcome at Colindale. It has been great meeting you all and getting to know your wonderful children.

This is the first newsletter of the year. In every newsletter I will be telling you about some of the work that the children at Colindale have been doing, reminding you about up and coming events and sharing important information.

This edition includes information about our new initiative to become an Eco School; our recent Harvest Assembly; an animation project involving some of year 6; the recent residential journey for year 6; work carried out in Black History Month in year 2; and how our youngest children have settled into school. I hope you enjoy it.  
Ms Lucy Rodgers, Headteacher

Our school is embarking on an exciting new venture to become an Eco School this year. An Eco School involves the school, the community and you the parents,



becoming more environmentally friendly. The children will learn how to take action to protect and save our planet. We will be focussing on recycling, keeping our

school and local environment litter free, saving energy by turning lights and electrical equipment off when not in use and continuing to try our best to walk to school to reduce air pollution. This is an important global issue that we must tackle together and by doing our bit to protect our planet we will be rewarded with our first Bronze Flag. A Bronze Flag will be flown outside our school to show we, as a school and community, are united to lead more sustainable lives.

Ms Lisa Thompson (Eco School Leader)

*Wow I can't believe I just did that!* 'That was amazing can I go again?' Were cries constantly heard by Year 6 children during their week-long school journey in October. Fifty-seven Year 6 children and six members of staff went to PGL, an activity based centre in Swindon. The children were split into groups and had to work together as a team to complete a range of challenges. They also took part in a variety of fun activities such as abseiling, zip-wire, raft building, rock climbing and archery. Every night the children took part in whole group activities, such as campfire and a disco. The facilities were modern, with every room having their own ensuite bathroom. The children especially enjoyed the food with halal, meat and vegetarian options for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



## Year 6 Animation Workshops

The children in year 6 who did not go on school journey took part in an animation project based on their World War 2 studies. They wrote a story about a group of school children who are evacuated to the countryside and who embark on an adventure which involves meeting King George V of England.

The children explored various art techniques, including painting, collage and model making. They recorded all the voiceovers, learning basic microphone techniques. They also learned

how to produce sound effects and create moving pictures, exploring stop-motion animation. The end result can be found on our website:

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

Please take a look.

Ms Wendy Wayland Interim Deputy Head)

## No nuts!

Just a reminder that Colindale is a nut free school. That means no nuts, or food that contain nuts e.g. chocolate spread, can be brought into school at anytime, in packed lunches, nor on school trips! This is very important as we have children and staff who are highly allergic to nuts.

Thank you.



### Nursery News

The children in our nursery class have settled in very well. It is great to see how confident they are as they make new friends and explore the exciting activities on offer. They have shown some excellent teamwork skills as they build towers, play games and make mud pies together. Well done to the nursery staff team and parents for making the settling in process so successful. Ms Emma Hurn (Assistant Head)



### Main school entrance

I have noticed that the school reception is very congested at the start and end of each day. With the safety of our children being of paramount importance, the main school doors will not be open until 8.30 every morning and then again at 3 pm at the end of the day. Thank you for your co-operation.

We are a **healthy school** so there should be no sweets brought into school in packed lunches, on school trips or at any other time. Please remember sweets are bad for your teeth and are not allowed! Thank you.



**Harvest Assembly:** Thank you to everyone who made donations to the Colindale Food Bank for our Harvest Festival. Christine who helps run the food bank, was overwhelmed by the quantity of food we'd collected. Christine spoke to the children at our Harvest assembly and told them about the service the Colindale Food Bank provides to our local community. She said that their stocks had been running low, so she was especially grateful to our families for their wonderful support. Ms Wendy Wayland (Interim Deputy)

### Black History Month

During Black History Month in year 2, children learned about the lives of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. Mary Seacole was a Jamaican woman who nursed sick and wounded British soldiers in the Crimean war. The soldiers called her 'Mother Seacole'. Like Florence Nightingale she was determined to look after the soldiers. She was single-minded and even without the help of others she showed that she could be a strong guardian for the soldiers, just as Florence Nightingale was.

During class time pupils also learned about Harriet Tubman and the lives of slaves. They discovered how slaves lived and were treated and talked about the

rights of everyone to be respected equally and treated with kindness and care. They enjoyed learning about freedom quilts and creating their own.

Ms Nisha Parmar (Assistant Head)



**Online Safety:** This term in ICT, we have been speaking to the children about Online Safety and going over the rules of how to stay safe on the Internet. We regularly remind children of the rules and what to do if they feel unsafe and it is good to see that the children are always aware. There are ways for parents to encourage online safety at home and websites which you can visit to explain *Online Safety* a bit further to help you keep your children safe on the Internet. A website called ThinkUKnow, which can be found at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk), helps you and also helps us look after your children as they are getting the same message both at school and at home. Mr Raj Dabasia (ICT manager)

### Important dates

November 14 - 18 Anti Bullying week.

November 15th Switch off Day -Eco School project.

November 16th Friendship disco.

November 17th Flu immunisations Y1,2 &3.

November 18th Children in Need.

November 18th Y3 science Museum trip.

December 5th Animation Workshop Y4.

December 5th -9th Final week of after school clubs (staff led).

December 6th Chicken Shed theatre Y5 'Adventure to Oz'.

December 12th,13th&15th Part 2 Animation workshop Y4.

December 14th Christmas Lunch.

December 21st Christmas carols in the hall for children.

December 21st School closes at 2pm.