

# Dallington School Newsletter

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[www.dallingtonschool.co.uk](http://www.dallingtonschool.co.uk)

Headteacher Mogg Hercules  
Deputy Headteacher Vanessa King



**Why not visit the brand new FoD web page...**

[www.friendsofdallington.blogspot.com](http://www.friendsofdallington.blogspot.com)

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email  
abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk*

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 26<sup>th</sup> May - Becky Wing visits school - Sports for Schools event
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June - Half Term
- ◆ 10<sup>th</sup> June - Years 1-6 elect class reps. prior to the 'Children Meet the Governors' meeting
- ◆ 17<sup>th</sup> June - FoD Summer social - Cider with Rosé
- ◆ 25<sup>th</sup> June - 'Children Meet the Governors' in the day, Board of Governors meeting in the evening.
- ◆ 9<sup>th</sup> July - 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'-Wilton's Music Hall.
- ◆ 11<sup>th</sup> July - Summer Fete
- ◆ 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Board of Governors Meeting

## The Mogg Blog

My 'treatment' has finished! The hair, starting to grow, will remain hidden under the headgear for a while longer. Abi thinks the sprouting growth looks like a cool crop, but I think it looks more like a G I Jane crop!

I have received an invitation to the Teaching Awards Ceremony 2009, with congratulations on my success in becoming a finalist.

Finalists are asked to arrive at Central Hall, Westminster at 10.45am on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, to take part in a Finalists' workshop, have lunch, then there is the ceremony, followed by drinks, then home! I wonder if I could ask for the drinks to come first?!

## Catherine's Group

In Maths the children have shown great enthusiasm for their work on fractions.

In Literacy, as well as our weekly diary entries and grammar work, we have been learning about Shakespeare's plays and his use of metaphor. We will also be learning about Shakespeare's sonnets and iambic pentameter.

We had our first costume-making session on Wednesday for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' with the help of Debbie Anness and Catherine Black – thank you very much, ladies! The children are all enjoying being designers and makers! Well done, children!



Don't forget to order your tickets for the FoD social, Cider with Rosé, Wednesday 17th June 2009.

## Middle School News

### MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS WILTON'S MUSIC HALL

In preparation for Middle School's performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' we visited Wilton's Music Hall on Thursday. The children had an opportunity to rehearse a selection of scenes on Wilton's magnificent stage. We were given a talk on the history of Wilton's by the theatre's director, Frances Mayhew. We also had a tour and made some sketches of the theatre. It was a fantastic afternoon. A huge thank you for Wilton's continued generosity and support.

***Tickets for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' will go on sale when we return after a well earned half-term rest.***

### POSTER, TICKET & PROGRAMME DESIGN COMPETITION

Last Wednesday marked the opening of Middle School's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' poster, ticket and programme competition. Thanks to FoD, the three winners will each receive a £10 book token as a prize and the fruits of the designers' labours will be seen in full colour print when we return after the half-term break. A very big thank you to the kind generosity of Luke for all our production printing. Winners will be announced on Thursday 28th May.

### TfL

A representative from TfL will be meeting with Year 6 on 10<sup>th</sup> June to give a talk on Safety & Citizenship.

## Transition News

**Year 1** has started its "Discover the World Around You Project". We have planted beans and sunflowers and are observing the roots of different kinds of plants through a roof window. We also set up a plant experiment, in which we grow plants under different conditions (no water, no light and any combination of these). At first, it looked like we were the first people to prove that plants need neither water nor light, as they all continued to grow happily, but eight days into our experiment it seems like they do! After half-term, we will visit the Islington Ecology Centre to have a look at (and smell!) some lovely plants.

Call for buttons:

Do you have buttons of any size, shape or colour, roaming around? Would you mind donating them to Year 1, as we will use them for sorting and counting activities? Thank you so much!

**Year 2** was hoping to walk along the South Bank and sketch the bridges this week. However, the weather did not permit. Hopefully we will do this next week!

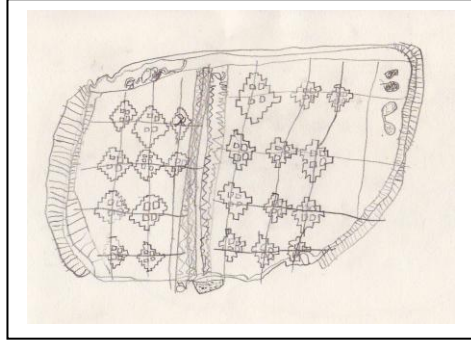
The children have been enjoying Judo this term and have really enjoyed the physical activity that it involves. The Da Vinci topic is going very well and the children have happily destroyed their toys and mine!

## Year 2 Drama News

The children in Year 2 have begun a mini project on Shakespeare and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' during their Drama Lessons on Friday afternoons. The project will come to a close on the penultimate week of term when they will be invited to come to Wilton's Music Hall and enjoy 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' with their families. We hope this will be an opportunity for the Year 2 children and their families to see one of the many aspects of Middle School life. (Tickets will be on sale after the half term break – all profits from ticket sales will be donated to Wilton's Music Hall and FoD).

## Picture of the Week

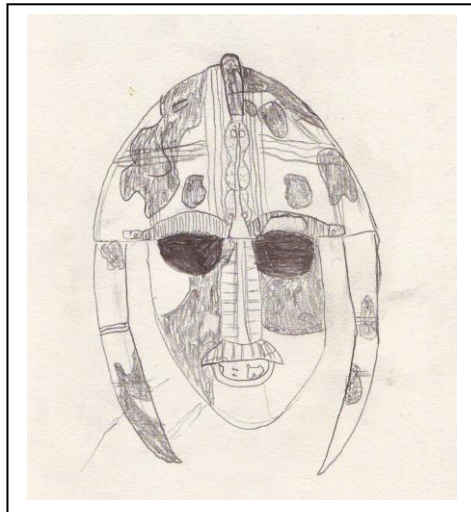
### James Bingham (Golden Clasp)



**Jackie's Group** is fresh from a visit to The British Museum on Monday, where the children looked at Anglo-Saxon artefacts. They particularly enjoyed the Sutton Hoo treasures. This week we've included some sketches by James Bingham and Hannah Syed.

Jackie's group is continuing to enjoy Tennis lessons with Marvin at Golden Lane Sports Centre.

### Hannah Syed (Sutton Hoo Helmet)



## Lower Nursery News

A busy time in Lower Nursery with Mr Gumpy getting stuck in the mud and trains, planes and automobiles whizzing across the walls! We've started planting dill and oregano for the Fete and designing our pudding labels too! We await the imminent arrival of the new Pickford baby too...watch this space.

## Lower Nursery News Flash...

Flora's Mummy had a baby boy on Tuesday night...Congratulations to the Pickfords!

## Upper Nursery News

Upper Nursery has started to plan for the Summer Fete. This week our seeds, pots, compost and labels arrived, so that we can grow herbs to sell at the Fete. Ambika's group has sown chives and Vanessa's group has sown chervil. When the plants are big enough, the children will transplant them into individual labelled pots ready for the plant stall. As is tradition, Upper Nursery will be running the ever popular 'Cake Stall' at the Fete. So dig out those recipes for banana cake, gingerbread, lemon drizzle cake, carrot cake or any other favourites and let's get cooking!

Upper Nursery children were very excited about the exercises they will be doing next Tuesday for 'Sports for Schools', especially 'star jumps' and the 'spotty dog exercise'!

## The Times - Books for Schools

Is everyone still collecting book tokens? Please do and please encourage your colleagues at work and friends to do the same...Thank you

Ditto the Sainsbury's vouchers!



## 'Swimming' Dave Ansell's Surprise Retirement Do

After teaching swimming to Dallington children for thirty years, Dave rather reluctantly left the School to retire in December 2008, although he is still very much involved with his swimming clubs!

Please join us at **The Coach & Horses** 26 - 28 Ray Street, Clerkenwell, London EC1R 3DJ Tel 020 7278 8990 on **Thursday 2nd July at 7pm** to thank Dave for his many years of wonderful teaching, resulting in brilliant Dallington swimmers.

All friends and ex-pupils of Dave (who are of legal drinking age!) are welcome.

RSVP to [abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk) so we can get an idea of numbers.

Thank you

## Our own Billy Elliot!

Nicholas Vavrecka (Year 4) was an absolute star this week! He was one of five children (three girls and two boys) from the Central School of Ballet, invited to perform with the Northern Ballet Theatre at Sadlers Wells in their production of 'A Simple Man' based on the life of the painter, Lowry.

If you looked very carefully, you would have noticed that the boy with a white face and scrawny Victorian outfit, holding the organ grinder's hand was our Nicholas! This beautiful 'tableau' was broken by the children's dancing and Nicholas shone.

Despite the pre-show nerves, Nicholas said it was the most exciting day of his life!

Encore...

## Sports for Schools

The Sports for Schools team visited us on 19th May for an introductory talk during which they explained about the fitness circuit the children will be doing on the day of the event and gave out sponsorship forms.

Prior to the London Olympics, the Sports for Schools Team aims to inspire children to enrol with local sports clubs.

Excitingly, on 26th May, we will be visited by the Olympic Gymnast, Beccy Wing and the Sports for Schools Coaching Team who will motivate and encourage the children through a Sponsored Fitness Circuit.

And the prizes? Children that raise over £5 will receive a postcard photo of their athlete, over £30, they will receive a signed A4 poster of their athlete and the class who raises the most money will be given a mystery prize!

Of the sponsorship money raised, **60% goes to Dallington** and 40% to Sports for Schools. **Just think of the equipment we will be able to buy!**

[www.beckywing.com](http://www.beckywing.com)  
[www.sportsforschools.org](http://www.sportsforschools.org)

## Car Share

If you would like to post an offer or request to do with Car Share, feel free to email [abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk) or find her in the office.

## Photos for the Prospectus and website

Please return your permission slips as soon as possible so that Peter Marlow can begin to take some wonderful photos. He cannot start until we know who not to include. Thank you.

## Can you help?

We need some extra bodies to help cover some weekly off-site visits. If you feel you can spare some time and are happy to join a pool of adults who can commit to offering some escort support each week, we would be hugely grateful. Please contact the office, or tell your teacher. Thank you!

## Recorder News

The 'Dial a Dallington Minstrel' group has started rehearsing. From next week, booking cards will be available on each floor, for children to book the minstrels for a classroom visit on their birthday!

## Cricket

Abi has been trying to get in touch with the Islington Cricket Club, but to no avail. If anyone is already a member of the club or indeed, is a proficient cricket player, we need your help!

## Chess Club

Chess Club is taking a break.

## Young Explorer's Club

Young Explorer's Club will continue this term on Thursdays, 3:45pm -5:15pm. A science based after school club, with lots of times for games and play, too. To sign up, please see Claudia in Year 1. And hot off the press...

## Board of Governors

If you would like to contact the Governors directly, you may email them at:  
**[governors @dallingtonschool.co.uk](mailto:governors@dallingtonschool.co.uk)**