

# Dallington School Newsletter

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

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> am & pm - Dance showing - Whole School (except Lower Nursery)
- ◆ TBC New Prospectus & Website launch party
- ◆ 11<sup>th</sup> February - Board of Governors Meeting
- ◆ Cycling Proficiency - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> weeks of February
- ◆ 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term
- ◆ 11<sup>th</sup> March - Open Evening
- ◆ March 26<sup>th</sup> - Break up
- ◆ 6<sup>th</sup> May - Board of Governors Meeting

## The Mogg Blogg

Long, long ago, in the olden days, a beautiful young woman stood at the top of the iron steps at the entrance to Dallington School.

"Here comes one of the candidates now," was heard. The candidate was wearing a 'proper' skirt and tights, as you do, when attending interview. Suddenly, the figure of the lovely young woman vanished from view. She had fallen down the stairs, laddered her tights and bloodied her knees.

"You must be an Aries", I said.

This was in January 1994 and beautiful Ambika continues to glow. Many, many children have gained benefit from Ambika's wonderfully creative presence and now – so will her baby.

We all send our love to Ambika and Bob.

## Charlie's Presentation

Today, Charlie (Fabian's son) came in to school. Jessie, Holly, Hannah, Monty and Farhad had an idea that we could do a presentation, on the interactive whiteboard, of Charlie's favourite things. The contents list included aeroplanes and rockets, dinosaurs, dogs, biscuits, the moon and Zippy from the TV show Rainbow). Charlie enjoyed the presentation, especially the moon and Zippy. We all enjoyed making it and Charlie loved watching it. Charlie showed his enjoyment by smiling, laughing and jumping up and down.

Jessie, Holly, Hannah and Farhad (Year 5) and Monty (Year 6)

## Mogg's Group

### My City Exam

It was Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> January and I was on a 56 bus with my dad. I was taking an exam for City of London School for boys. You can go early at ten for OG year. I had a pink card with my name and candidate number. I was 1112. I went in by the sports entrance knowing where I was going because my brother goes there. I went into a big room with what looked like 250 children. I spotted James Bingham and Oliver, my friend from ballet. I signed off my name and sat down.

Once we had done our first class, which was a group interview, I had made a lot of friends. In the group interview we had to learn a few things about the partner we were paired with. We then had to do interviews with people who had witnessed a crime. I was the witness and my partner was the reporter while other people were parents and doctors talking about the boy who had been injured in the crime. We then had English. We had a comprehension and a story.

Next was lunch and we had school dinner, cottage pie and peas, custard and sponge. It was delicious. We then had a run around and then back for verbal reasoning and maths. The papers were not too hard but I think we should have got more time. I then went home having enjoyed my day rather a lot.

Nicholas (Year 5)

Today my mum has gone to Utah, to a film festival called Sundance, to release the new Banksy film; 'Exit Through the Gift Shop.' My mum has directed it and produced it.

I am excited about the new release and proud of my mum, but I can't wait to see her when she comes back to London.

Betty-Belle Thornton (Year 6)

#### Link to trailer

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/arts\\_and\\_culture/8471145.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/arts_and_culture/8471145.stm)

## Catherine's Group

This week we have been tackling decimal fraction work.

The children have taken to decimal fractions like ducks to water and have all been hardworking and successful with their maths this week. Well done children!

We have been following the terrible earthquake in Haiti every day on the BBC's Newsround website. Interesting conversations have taken place.

We have been finding out about the 'Richter Scale,' and the seismologist Charles Richter who developed it. Did you know, as well as his mother tongue English, he learned Russian, Italian, French, Spanish, German and a little Japanese to enable him to read scientific papers in their original language! Imagine that! We were amazed by his dedication. Inspired by this, the children went on to learn quite a bit about earthquakes, why they occur and in particular 'The Richter Scale.' Their knowledge of earthquake magnitude and effect is now pretty good.

We read Hamlet, bit by bit, day by day over the last two weeks or so. We enjoyed discussing the characters so much. Undeterred by the tragic ending, the children have asked for more Shakespeare.... Anyone for MacBeth?

## Upper Nursery News

Upper Nursery returned to school after the Christmas holidays with Anna and Kay joining the staff team as Ambika is about to go on her Maternity leave. Tommy and Isaac have also joined us. They have all settled in well.

The biggest excitement has been the snow and ice. This gave the staff a wonderful opportunity to provide resources and enjoy the child-initiated learning. White ice blocks were made to create igloos, bowls in bowls also created igloos and other containers were filled with different coloured water, to extend the children's learning, when all the white 'stuff' had gone. Blue and yellow ice blocks melt into green water and coloured ice can be used to write with!

## A note from Ambika

I just wanted to say good-bye and to say what a wonderful time I've had with my current group who I'm leaving in very good hands and all my previous groups. I shall miss everyone at Dallington enormously but we'll be coming to visit and will stay in touch. See you all soon!

## Yellow Moon

Thank you to everyone who purchased from **Yellow Moon** last term.

We have earned **£25.26** in commission. We shall keep it in a kitty and then spend it on something special for the children.

[www.yellowmoon.org.uk](http://www.yellowmoon.org.uk)

New catalogues out soon...

**Dance** Final deadline on tap shoe orders extended until after this weekend, **Monday 24th.**

## Dallington F.C.



### First Half

The game started at 4.25p.m. Beforehand, we had been watching two other teams play. The game was ten minutes per half. We were surprised to have a strip in our first game! We split the game into two halves, seven players playing each half. Farhad was in goal, Devon and Felix were in defence, Adam and Hamish in midfield and Enzo in strike. We played a very defensive first half and they squeezed two goals past our brilliant goalie, Farhad. The score at the end of the first half ended up 2-0 to Prior Weston.

### Second Half

Theo, Lucas and Thomas played in defence, with Monty and Louis in midfield and James up front. We played better in the second half, attacking for the better part of the half. Monty scored a good goal about three quarters of the way through the game. Louis almost scored in extra time, but it was saved. 'We was robbed we was' in the words of an angry supporter. It was brilliant fun and Dallington F.C. would like to thank all of its supporters for coming to watch!

Felix Naylor Marlow & Monty Gordon

## Transition News

### Year 1 – Claudia’s & Cindy’s

Everyone is happy to be back! We have welcomed lovely Enrico into Cindy’s class, who has appeared to have settled in easily and made friends with a lot of children already. Alice Smith from Claudia’s class is spending a term in New Zealand and has written us a lovely letter, letting us know how hot the weather is Down Under....

Whilst Alice is enjoying the warm sunshine, the children in Year 1 are looking at ‘Animals in the Cold.’ They have started to learn about hibernation, adaptation and migration. The children have made sure that the birds that are staying here throughout winter have enough food, by making bird feeders. Whilst doing that, they must have broken the record for coming up with words that describe the lard we used.....!

The children have also begun making memory boxes – a collection of memories to remind them of when they were in Year 1. The children have been reflecting on their favourite things. They wrote a letter to someone in their class and designed a special cover for their box. They will be adding one special thing over the coming weeks.

Happy belated birthdays also to: Yasmin, Seun, Matti and Augie, who all turned 6!



## Jackie’s Group

Jackie’s group started football this week, with Roger. Year 3 spent this Monday developing their ball control and tackling skills. England football squad here we come!!! Several children in the group have expressed an interest in becoming part of the Dallington Football Team.

During the December break, Lucy Shaw won 3rd place in a skiing race in Switzerland. Well done Lucy!

### Year 2 - Kate’s Group

Over the last few weeks, Year 2 has been studying about Antarctica. We have done some very interesting science experiments! We have looked at how much of an iceberg is above the water and we have also learnt that there are different coloured icebergs. We also had a look at what happens when we put ice in vegetable oil. Interestingly, the water and the oil did not mix with each other at all and we found that water is heavier than ice. The reason for this is because ice has air bubbles in it.

Some of the children in the class had their first game of football! They enjoyed it greatly and are looking forward to another game!

## Whole school Project!

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Happening soon at Dallington!

Watch this space for more news!

## Lower Nursery News

The term begins with five new friends joining us in Lower Nursery, so a warm welcome to Alejandro, Catherine, Christopher, Felix and Oriel. They have settled into the new routine quickly and had a busy week of new experiences, so well done! We also celebrated Apollinaire’s fourth birthday with a visit from the Dallington Minstrels and delicious cake. Happy Birthday Apollinaire!

Our themes this term are ‘Spring’ and ‘Fairytales’. We will incorporate the school project topic of ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle’ into our thematic work. So watch out for the Gingerbread Man, Little Red Riding Hood and a host of other characters this term! As we build magical castles and plan routes through the woods, bake delicious gingerbread and make our own fairytale books.

If you have any interesting materials or objects that you think we may be able to utilise and recycle here in Lower Nursery please tell us about them so that we can see if they can be reused or recycled. Remember nothing that has been in contact with nuts and no glass or sharp objects please. Many thanks in anticipation.... here’s to a term of creativity and invention, learning, development and fun!

Finally many thanks from all the team for all our lovely festive gifts and wishes and we wish everyone in Dallington a very Happy New Year 2010!

### More Baby News

Congratulations to our guitar teacher Dalibor whose partner gave birth to a bonny baby girl on Monday, eight days early! Surprise!