

# Dallington School Newsletter

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

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May - SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - Individual & Group
- ◆ Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May - London Community Gospel Choir workshop - Years 4-6
- ◆ Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May - swimming starts at Cally Road Baths
- ◆ 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Board of Governors Meeting
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> June - Year 1 Leeds Castle trip
- ◆ Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June-Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Half term
- ◆ Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June - LSO concert at Barbican Years 3-6
- ◆ July 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> - Singing Morning & Open Afternoon UN & LN for children starting in September
- ◆ July 10<sup>th</sup> - Fete
- ◆ July 16<sup>th</sup> - BREAK UP - 12 Noon
- ◆ 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011- Board of Governors Meeting
- ◆ 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011- Board of Governors Meeting

## The Mogg Blogg

So, what was the problem with being “stranded” in luxury, in Oman, for six extra days? The problem was the inability to relax due to the uncertainty of a departure date, the confirmed knowledge that work at school was piling up, plus the extra cost entailed on a daily basis. Should I relinquish the cocktails, the food, or both – and, for how long? A welcome return awaited all those who were stranded, many of whom had to take extremely circuitous routes back to London but, according to the children, had an unexpected and adventurous end to their holiday.

Felix brought his snake, Monty Python II into school. Monty Python Number One had done a runner, well, had slithered away from home and, prior to that, had escaped in Middle School and later was discovered, in a cardboard cylinder, underneath the sofa on the stage area.

Firstly, it had to be established when Felix’s mum would be collecting his python! The snake was taken around all the groups. Many adults hid, or became busy elsewhere, the children stroked, held and allowed the python free range. Felix will be leaving us, in July, to transfer to Secondary School, however, he has a younger brother, Theo, who may well be permitted to bring Felix’s python into school!

Julius has kindly offered to take over the newsletter from Abi. He is currently in training and will be chief editor of the next issue! I should like to thank Abi for originating the newsletter and continuing with its publication, until the handover to Julius.

## Jackie’s Group

As part of our Summer Term Project, ‘The River Thames’, Year 3 visited the Thames foreshore on Wednesday, to take part in the Thames Explorer Trust’s ‘Archaeology for All’ session.

We investigated objects that get washed up on the shore and discussed what they tell us about the history of the area and the people who have lived and worked there.

Here’s a photo of one of the works of art we created on the foreshore. The children had a brilliant time, finding all sorts of fantastic treasure that has been washed up – bottles, pottery, bones, bricks and metal.



Andy from the Thames Explorer Trust helped the children identify their various finds.

## Year 1 – Cindy’s & Claudia’s

### Once upon a time in Year 1...

Year 1 had an unexpected start to the school term with Cindy and a few Year 1 children not able to get flights back due to the Volcanic Ash Cloud. Big, big thank you to Claudia and the Transition team for ensuring a positive start to the term. The children began their topic, “Fairy Stories and Traditional Tales”. They have drawn some fabulous illustrations depicting a scene from the German Fairy Story “Sterntaler” or “Star Money”. They have also created Story Maps depicting the main events of the stories they have read in class.

On Tuesday, the children in Year 1 had joy in their hearts as they sang and enjoyed the soulful sound of Gospel. Year 1 had concentration, vocal skill and their coordination tested, as the children learnt five different Gospel songs, enthusiastically taught by Tulah and Sharoni .

Thank you to our parents who came to watch their performance. The children sang just like Whoopi in Sister Act !

Finally, Happy Birthday to Elise in Cindy’s group who celebrated her 6<sup>th</sup> birthday last month and special congratulations to Emma and Theo who welcomed into the world their new baby sister Flora.



## Lower Nursery News

The Summer term begins and we welcome two new friends, Elsa and Ismael.

Our themes this term will be Growing and Mini Beasts! The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle will be our literary focus so watch out for a large hungry caterpillar! He will be munching his way around the nursery, together with some beautiful butterflies, ladybirds, snails and bees.

We shall also be planting some beans and seeds and seeing how our garden will grow...so watch this space.

Lots of activity from sensory play with ‘gloop’ – a mixture of smooth corn flour and water – to ‘pimp my wheels’ as the children decided to be mechanics this week and ‘fix’ the Cinderella coach with the tools!

As usual, we look forward to a busy term where the nursery becomes a hive of activity as the children learn and play together, engaging in core activities, together with adult and child initiated ideas.

We also say congratulations to Theo and family upon the arrival of baby Flora during the Easter break!

## Abi’s Album

If you missed Abi’s album launch but would like to buy a copy of

### ‘Cycling in Stilettos’

please see her in the office. She would love you to hear her music and of course, would love the support!

[abigailhercules.com](http://abigailhercules.com)

## Upper Nursery News

Upper Nursery children came back from the Easter Holiday full of excitement over the Icelandic volcano. Several of their friends had found themselves ‘stuck’ abroad on extended holidays or had made a torturous journey back through Europe by car, train and boat.

As the children were so interested we explored volcanoes and made some ourselves, using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda, in plastic bottles placed in a sandy/rocky environment. This was great fun but not as authentic as making an icy environment.

What fun we had working out how to freeze plastic bottles in bowls and trays of water. The squeals of delight when it worked and red ‘lava’ spewed from a ‘glacier’ in a frozen landscape could probably be heard in Iceland itself!

## Transition News

### Year 2 - Kate’s Group

Over the next half term Year 2 will be looking at da Vinci, an extraordinary man with so much talent. He was a scientist, artist, inventor and mathematician.

This week the children are making parachutes. Some have chosen to design their own and others have decided to trial a da Vinci parachute. We will also be studying and sketching the skulls of animals, thanks to Jack Pitman Wallace, who has an amazing collection of skulls! The children have already written words in mirror image and made their own secret codes. That’s all in a week! We will keep you updated on what we will be doing in the next newsletter...watch this space!!

## Ex-pupil News

Polly Burnay, who left us in July 2009 and was awarded an Art Scholarship to Queen's College, has been chosen to exhibit her work at the Royal Academy.

We just received an email from Millie Etuk who is now thirty-one and is a specialist registrar doctor, specializing in Oncology at St. Barts.

Millie now has three daughters and she laments the fact that they live too far away to come to Dallington.

Milo Constable and Jack McNeill-Adams, who both went to Westminster, will be in the school carrying out work experience, soon.

## Mogg's Group

### Fashion in the School

At the moment all the older girls seem to be rocking the jeans and converse look with long cardigans and waistcoats. Older boys seem to be wearing hoodies and jeans, like always!

Younger girls are wearing cute crinkle dresses and short cardigans alongside ballet pumps. They always look sweet! The younger boys always look cool, wearing printed long-sleeved t-shirts and cotton trousers.

At the moment no-one seems to be wearing full tracksuits, though they are really cool! Everyone looks great so keep on looking here for more fashion do's (and don'ts)!

### Ruby Macgregor (Year 6)

## Mogg's Group

### Kayaking

Years 5 and 6 have started kayaking sessions at Shadwell Basin hidden on one of the sides of the River Thames. The ride is 15 to 20 minutes on a hired minibus. The session lasts one and a half hours. We sometimes spend the session in a kayak or go in a canoe with numerous amounts of people.

The best bit of course is at the end when we all get to jump in using *any* jump you like. (WARNING: It is *rather* cold!) From what I've seen, I get the impression that at least most people enjoy it.

### Adam Grant (Year 5)

### My performance at Sadlers Wells

Central School of Ballet is my ballet school and the whole junior school, Grades 1-7, are doing some dances, choreographed by their ballet teachers. I did an opening dance called "The Children's March" with the Grade 4 group. I then had two minutes to change into my next costume and I nearly missed my cue!

I go to a special coaching class where you have to be personally invited. This means I had two extra dances than most people in my class. Once I had done my next dance, which was "The Snowflakes", I had to wait six dances until my next dance, which was a solo for boys in Grades 3 and 4. When I had done this, there was an interval. Then I had to get ready for my next coaching class dance, "The Mazurka". It was a character dance.

My final dance was free movement, so I had to change costume again. I really enjoyed myself on this dance because it was my last. Then, when we had finished that, the Grade sevens did a dance. Then came the curtain call. I really enjoyed myself.

### Nicholas (Year 5)

## Catherine's Group

During project time, we have immersed ourselves in the world of Homer's Iliad. Presently the children are learning about Achilles, his mother one of the Nereids 'Thetis of the Silver Feet' and his father, King Peleus of the Myrmidons.

We have had such interesting discussions about all the characters the children have been introduced to so far: Paris, Oenone, Helen of the fair cheeks, Meneleus, Agamemnon and of course Achilles. The whole group is now on its way to becoming a group of future classics scholars!

## Puppy of the Week



**Cleopatra Artemis Vavrecka**

**(Cleo for short!)**

## Dallington F.C.

### Ball Pythons VS Magma Pants

#### First Half

The game was tense in the first half and each team was trying to get a lead on the other. On the Ball Pythons' side, there was Felix in goal, Zaki, Griffin and Hannah in defence, Hamish and Geo in midfield and Thomas in strike.

On Magma Pants' side, Enzo in goal, Lucas, Lulu and Louis Burnay in defence, Holly and Adam in midfield and Farhad in strike.

There were no goals for the first two thirds, but a shot from the halfway line slipped through the Ball Pythons' goalie. Throughout the rest of the half, Thomas and Hamish were trying get in a goal, but good saves stopped this.

#### Second Half

The start of the second half was savage and a large number of shots were taken against Magma Pants' team compared to the small number against the Ball Pythons.

Felix had a brilliant diving save to stop one of Adam's shots. The defence on Magma Pants' team and the Ball Pythons' team was brilliant though Magma Pants team let the ball slip past and Thomas slipped it through and through Farhad's legs. It was 1-1 at the end of the match and the teams walked away with a draw.

Man of the Match: Thomas

**Felix Naylor Marlow**

## VINTAGE SWAP

Too many trousers you never wear?

A lovely jumper, but it makes you look pale? Shoes that are just collecting dust? Why not just swap? We will have a women's clothes swap at Dallington School on

**Thursday, 27 May between 7:30pm- 9:30pm.**

Come and bring some things, have a glass of wine and a chat, make someone else happy with your shoes and leave with the jumper in just your colour.

(If you are unable to attend but would like to leave some clothes with us to give away, please email us.)

Please let us know that you are coming by confirming with

**claudia.balara  
@dallingtonschool.co.uk**

(Please use this email address on this occasion only, you still need to call in to let us know when your child is ill or tell us in person when they forget their tap shoes. Thanks.)

## Picture of the Week

Year 3 has created pastel drawings to illustrate the moon poem Silver by Walter de la Mare.

**Enzo Croy** – silver pastel drawing



## Singing Morning

As usual, we are going to have an informal singing morning on

**Wednesday July 7th**

The whole school will be involved and we will give you more information nearer the time. Please keep it free!

## Mogg's Group

### Stuck in a bubble

It's nobody's fault apart from the plane, it's really quite a shame.

I'm stuck in this bubble and I can't work out the conclusion, maybe it's just a big illusion.

The reason I am like this is because I have flown across seas to get to Hollywood I was stranded there for six weeks.

**Betty-Belle Thornton**



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