

Dallington School Newsletter

Newsletter Date 20.05.11
Volume 8
Issue 1

www.dallingtonschool.co.uk

Headteacher Mogg Hercules
Deputy Headteacher Vanessa King

Upcoming Events

May

Monday 30th
Bank Holiday

June

Monday 6th – Friday 10th
Half-term Break

July

Friday 15th
12pm
Summer Holidays Begin

FRIENDS OF DALLINGTON

The Summer Fete is coming up and so F.O.D is looking for items to raffle. If you have any great raffle items that you could donate to the school, then please pass them on to your child's class representative.

We will have more information about the fete in future newsletters.

The Mogg Blogg

Have all the children had a growth spurt during the Easter break? Years 5 and 6 tower over my short stature, so perhaps the answer is to invest in a very high-heeled pair of shoes – or carry around a step ladder.

It is such an interesting time for our Leavers. On the one hand the children are 'cooked' and ready to fly but, on the other hand, inevitably they are apprehensive about the unknown, regardless of induction days and 'getting to know you' sessions. It is really useful to get the low-down, as to how everything has turned out, from the young people who have been in our care, quite often for eight years of their lives.

We are planning to publish an end-of-year magazine and it is to be hoped that our Leavers can express their reflections in their writing for publication.

12th June 2011 – The Dallington Dolls are doing it Again!



This time more of us are going to run, walk, hop, skip or jump or maybe even crawl 5km around The City. Please sponsor Sue, Cathy, Christine G., Ann, Paula, Susan, Wendy, Christine D., Ambika and any other staff who join us. We have set up a web link to make it easier for you to sponsor us.

<http://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/suekennard3101>

Or you may give an envelope (named Dallington Dolls) containing sponsorship money to your child's teacher.

Lower Nursery

Lower Nursery is well into this terms topic, 'Mini-Beasts'. We have welcomed the first of our mini-beast friends into the classroom. Worms! Many of the children have been very brave and have wanted turns holding them. We look forward to welcoming some more mini-beasts over the next few weeks, including snails, caterpillars and ants. Lower Nursery has come up with these ideas about how best to care for our guests:

"Look at them and touch them gently," said Louis F.

"Feed them and give them a drink," said Catherine.

"No putting your shoes on them," said James.

"No putting them up your nose," said Nimo.

"No eating them or they will die," said Leo.

We have also welcomed seven new children and they are all settling in well.

A quick reminder for the new parents: Lower Nursery is a nut free classroom; this includes no peanut butter and pesto (as this contains pine nuts).

Thank you. Have a nice weekend.

Upper Nursery

Can you spot the frog?



The term started with a big welcome to Leah, Felix, Lily, Christopher and Oriel. All the children were full of exciting news about their holidays, which ranged from Barbados to Brighton. On the second day, the tadpoles returned from their holiday with Anouska at her grandparents' house in the country. My how they had grown in three weeks! We now have tadpoles at all stages of metamorphosis, from looking as if they have just hatched to one special one that is hopping and climbing all around the special environment the children have made. This has led to some interesting child initiated imaginative play with water, rocks, gravel and plastic toys. Those children with a leaning towards science have been checking out those things that will float like the tadpoles.

Fascinating Fact

In the Eurovision song contest, the UK has come second fifteen times out of fifty-five attempts.

Year 1

Our new term started with a colourful and exciting new topic: In and Under the Grass. For an introduction, we went to the National History Museum. We had a look around the Creepy Crawly Gallery and then headed to the special exhibition, 'Sensational Butterflies'. It was truly amazing! Hundreds of colourful butterflies were swirling around and landing on the children; much to their delight.

We highly recommend this exhibition to all families. It is on until 11th September.

After our excursion to see the butterflies, the fun and excitement continued in the classroom, with the addition of thirty-three brand new, just hatched out of their eggs, painted lady caterpillars. Early this week, the Year 1 children transferred these fuzzy creatures from their box into their new homes. As the term progresses we hope to watch them eat, grow and undergo metamorphosis in their chrysalis.

The children are keeping an observation diary as a memory of this experience.



WHO IS THIS WEE FELLAH?



The beautiful baby in the last issue was none other than Oliv Windle (Yr 6). Can you guess who is this week's baby?

Year 2

We have started the Summer Term with great gusto. Our topic is 'Leonardo Da Vinci' and we are beyond excited to be discovering what makes this man from Italy so extraordinary, more than five hundred years after his birth. Did you know Leonardo Da Vinci was an artist, engineer, botanist, astronomer, geologist, mathematician and musician? We have begun recording our ideas, observations and inventions in a notebook, just as Leonardo had done.

In Mathematics, we are investigating 2D-shape and learning about the features of regular and irregular shapes.

If you were to have just three colours to paint with which would you choose? In Art, we have been learning about colour wheels and have used the three primary colours; red, blue and yellow, to make the secondary colours; purple, green and orange.

In English, we are continuing to write letters to people who inspire us. We have chosen people from all walks of life, including authors, musicians, actors, movie directors, chess champions and relatives.

As yet we have not heard back from our balloon messages or Innocent Smoothies but you can still vote for our Caraway Seed Biscuit recipe at <http://innocentdrinks.com/recipearchive>

Race for Life

Lily, Amelie and Yasmin, from Year 2, are taking part in the Race for Life, in aid of cancer research on 21st May (tomorrow), in Regents Park at 11am.

If you haven't sponsored - please do! Their donation page will stay open for a couple of weeks.

<http://www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/charlottepollard2904>

And thank you so much to those who have already donated!

NZ Earthquake Appeal

PLEASE wish Megan good luck as she will be climbing London's 'Gherkin' on Sunday. She is raising money for the New Zealand earthquake appeal in conjunction with Step Up 4 Christchurch.

You can still sponsor her by going to http://www.everydayhero.co.uk/megan_ellis

Also, you are warmly invited to come along to 30 St Mary's Axe on the day, from 10am, for a family outing filled with entertainment, music, food and drink.

Escape From Alcatraz

Spare a thought for our swimming teacher, Matt, this Sunday as he attempts the Alcatraz Challenge Swim in San Francisco. You can still donate towards his effort at: www.justgiving.com/Matt-Alcatraz-Ironman

Catherine's Group

As usual, it has been a busy time in Year 3 and 4. We have had a chance to get over our Easter Break and now it is back to work. We are still absorbed in The Iliad. So far this is what has happened: the Greek warriors have assembled outside the walls of Troy, all ready to fight for the return of Helen, but they have been there ten years and they are all weary and have had enough. They want to go back to their families but the tough Odysseus has threatened them, so they are afraid to leave. What happens next? Well, you'll just have to wait and see.

We have also been creating PowerPoint presentations of some Greek Myths. It is quite a skill selecting relevant and appropriate material but we have become quite adept. It's also fun adding animations to the slide show.

We are also researching Greek gods and their attributes. This has been quite interesting. For example, did you know that Zeus' horse Pegasus carried his lightning bolts? We are becoming quite the experts!

A JOKE

Why didn't the skeleton go to the ball?

Because he had no body to go with!

Mogg's Group

In the first week, we all tried to finish our sarcophagi. This was quite difficult as we didn't want to make any mistakes, after working for so long on them. They are now fit for a king or queen ... or should that be, pharaoh!

We have started kayaking at Shadwell Basin. To begin, a few of us were quite scared to be out on the water, but after some gentle reassurance we all gained the confidence needed to paddle about by ourselves. By the end, all the Yr 5s agreed with the Yr 6s that kayaking is an absolutely brilliant experience.

Jay has started a new Science project on Sight and Sound. He has placed a massive eye and ear at the front of the class. This has made us all keen to learn how they work.

In Mathematics, we are going back over what we have learned this year. It is amazing to see just how much we have covered!

Exhibition Space



This observational drawing was drawn by Harriette O'Kane, in Year 5. She has concentrated on every little detail of her shoe, so that she can make her drawing look as realistic as possible.

Happiness is a Warm Puppy



This is a picture of Albie's (year 4), Fred's (year 3) and Sid's (year 1) dog Rover, as a puppy. Rover is now 21 in dog years or 3 in human years.

INTERVIEW with JAY



Q1. When did you start teaching?

A1. Monday 27th January 1994 at 7:45am.

Q2. Do you play any instruments?

A2. Yes, the piano, the guitar and the laptop.

Q3. What school did you work at before Dallington?

A3. Thorndon Primary – Yr 7 & 8 (Wellington, New Zealand)

Summer Mini-League

Tuesday football is underway. There are four teams.

In Louis Burnay's team there is Jack Lodge, Jessica Shaw, Lulu Ingram, Sam Ingram, Oliver Shaw, Lucas Kimber and Hamish Olrik Small.

In James Bingham's team there is Scott Taylor, Louis Menzies Walker, Luca Carlton, Samuel Roberts-Rodriguez, Hannah Syed and Griffin Nicol.

In Farhad Khan's team there is Theo Keane, Geo Camilleri, Elise Olrik Small, Enrico Meucci-Lyons and Adam Keen.

In Albie Marber's team there is Enzo Croy, Laurie Vavrecka, Elian Razavi, Kaia Michel, Hattie Burnay and Isie Lodge.

At our first session Louis' team won against James' team, while Farhad's team won against Albie's team.

Doctor Who – Review

Doctor Who (played by Matt Smith), Rory and Amy are back travelling in time through thirteen exciting adventures. The series started with a two part episode set in America 1969 which was being invaded by the Silence. The Silence erases itself from your memory so you forget that anything bad happened. Where will the Tardis take them next? Find out on Saturday 21st at 6.45pm, BBC1. Don't miss it.