

# Dallington School Newsletter

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

Headteacher Mogg Hercules  
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## Upcoming Events

### November

Week beginning 28th  
All Week

### No swimming

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>  
9:15am  
Middle School performs  
'The Golden Sovereign.'

### December

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>  
2pm – 3pm  
Open Afternoon  
New Entrants  
Lower and Upper Nursery

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Evening  
Christmas Carol Concert

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>  
12pm  
Christmas Holidays Begin

### January

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>  
9am  
Spring Term Begins



## The Mogg Blogg

Thank you so much to everyone who baked and /or bought cakes and biscuits on Friday. A cheque for £452.14 has been sent to Children in Need, an amount which, I think, is an absolute achievement on behalf of you all.

Lower Nursery raised £34.06

Upper Nursery raised £94.71

Transition raised £136.41

Middle School raised £186.96

Now for two things completely different. There has been an element of congestion on the stairs, especially at hometime. We teach the children to hold the handrail with their right hand, when going down the stairs, and again, to hold the handrail with their right hand when coming up the stairs – and always in single file! It would help enormously if, when adults are collecting, to reinforce this practice, when walking up and down the stairs.

The second request is for all parents, who have entered their children for external exams, or assessments, to let me know. Report forms, from any receiving schools, are sent out during late November and during December. I do have to schedule times for writing these reports and often I am taken aback, by the assumption that I am a mind-reader, when parents have failed to inform me about the schools for which their children will be sitting and the dates on which they will be sitting. Please, therefore, let me know before the report forms arrive!

Moaning over!

## Lower Nursery

Currently we are learning about the seasons. We have been talking about and exploring aspects of autumn and anticipating the changes in the weather and physical environment, now that winter is fast approaching. We have also been thinking about what clothes we wear at different times in the year. This week has also been Assessment Week, where we look at the progress the children have made in Mathematics and Phonics. This helps us to establish starting points to help the children move on in these areas of learning next term.

Over the next three weeks Lower Nursery will be exploring traditions of Christmas, which will include why we celebrate Christmas. There will be lots of Christmas craft activities happening, so expect your child to be covered in glitter from head to toe! The reason we are starting these activities so early is to give us time to decorate the classroom and really get into the festive spirit! Sophie, Lexi's mum has kindly offered to make us a Christmas tree, which will become the focal point of the classroom and will be displayed in the role play area. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that if there are any cultural traditions or religious festivals you celebrate, other than those traditionally celebrated in the UK, and you would like us to celebrate these at school too, please let us know in advance.



## A Blast from the Past

We go to Forest School in Epping Forest, which, funnily enough, is next to a forest! We have six periods a day and they are fifty minutes each! This is hard work if you do not enjoy the subject. Nicholas' favourite subject is Science and Farhad's is Maths. There are over 1200 boys and girls at Forest, in equal proportion. There are eight boys' houses and the Year Sevens are sorted equally across them. There is a school tie, which has dark blue and white stripes; or the house tie, which has silver and house - colour stripes.

Our school is a bit like Hogwarts, in that there is a Jenx shield awarded every term to the house with the most points. You can earn points by commendations, though you don't get told by the teachers if you earn points, like in Harry Potter. There are also the house competitions which carry eighty points: house music, house drama, house master chef and house sport.

We also found out that part of Jessie J's video, 'Who's Laughing Now', was filmed in our lunch hall, except all the tables had been cleared out; look for the bit where the 'young' Jessie J is standing in front of the Hollywood background!

Farhad and Nicholas (Yr 7)



## Upper Nursery

The focus for Upper Nursery during the last week was the charity Children in Need. During the run up to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November the children were told about children in London, England and the whole world, who were in need of some of the basic things in life. We discussed the things we thought we needed and how we could help those children. The idea of making something to sell prompted a discussion about shops, so the idea of selling on the forecourt came naturally. Pudsey biscuits were chosen as the children could take part in every aspect of their making, particularly the decorating!



The whole enterprise covered every area of the EYFS curriculum, from weighing the butter to designing the bunting, and raised £94.71. Thank you.



Children in Need Cake Sale

## Year 1

"It's like Piccadilly Circus in here" is an expression I have only just learned myself, but somehow, it seems to fit the beginning of our time in Year 1. We sadly had to say goodbye to Leah and Theo, but only a few days after they had left, we could welcome Jasmine and now also Jasper into our class. Jasmine moved from Australia, right into Dallington Street, and Jasper and his family are relocating from Frankfurt. Jasper's English has already improved over the past week - who would not love to learn a new language as quickly as children.....

We have started our Sense Workshop and the children are enjoying discovering the amazing things we experience through our senses. In Literacy, the children have now learned nearly all letter sounds and double sounds and their reading and writing is developing well. In Numeracy, we have learnt about estimation and base ten, as well as 'subitising'- recognising numbers of objects without counting.

Not long and we will start our Christmas activities...

## Year 2

We are continuing our integrated topic **Under the Ocean** and have been learning many interesting things about oceanic ecosystems. We have explored how kelp and coral are vital to sustaining marine life, and we have created colourful coral reef sculptures, which are now on display in our class. We are approaching the end of our topic and are concluding by looking at how humans interact with ocean environments, whilst promoting a message of global and personal environmental responsibility. But best of all we are looking forward to our field trip next week to Steve Hatt's fishmonger shop and Kennedy's to sample some fish'n'chips!

On Monday, we will be visited by the local branch of the London Fire Brigade, who will be speaking to us about fire safety and what to do in the event of a fire. As we approach winter, when fire risks increase, having a family fire safety plan is recommended. Do you know what to do in case of a fire? What number do you dial if you need the Fire Brigade? Would you know the address of the fire to direct emergency workers?

Lastly, Parents' Talk sessions will be on the afternoons/evenings of December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Please add your name to the timetable to nominate your preferred time. We look forward to seeing you then.



## Catherine's Group

The children are enjoying their book and author's project. Presently we are deeply immersed in the wonderful world of Roald Dahl. After listening to several chapters from Roald Dahl's book, 'Boy,' the children were inspired to write about themselves just as Roald Dahl did and are currently piecing together their own autobiographies. The children took particular delight in hearing about the high jinks Roald Dahl got up to with his boyhood friends. The comical story about the sweet shop near Roald Dahl's primary school, which was perhaps the catalyst for one of his most famous stories, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', made us laugh hysterically, and inspired by this, we went on to invent our own piece of confectionary and write about it. Writing about sweeties worked like magic...the children were focussed, imaginative and more enthusiastic than I have ever seen them before... I wonder why? Here is a selection of years three and four's wonderful imaginary sweets...

### Tin Tony Bons by Fred

Tin Tony Bons allow all your wishes to come true. The flavours are cherry, apple, banana and lemon. They are soft and luxurious and very sweet. They are 50% natural and makes you feel like you are in Heaven. They make you relaxed and calm and you have to suck them.

### Fub Gum by Mattia

Fub gum is a very chewy gum which makes you say "Fub," the second you eat it. Fub gum is round, bright blue and comes in a big jar. It is very smooth. Fub Gum has a silver wrapping with yellow dots.

### Ice Mints by Yasmin

Ice Mints are really good for hot days. They are really refreshing and they melt the minute you put them in your mouth. When you suck them they change into different colours. They are natural and taste of fresh mint and watery fresh ice.

## CRAZY PHOTO



The Pod Racing 'round here's gone to the dogs!

## Welcome Jasper

Q1. What is your favourite colour?

A1. Yellow

Q2. What is your favourite activity at school?

A2. Swimming

Q3. What is your favourite food?

A3. Chocolate

Q4. What is your favourite animal?

A4. I don't have a favourite animal, I love them all

Jasper has just moved to England. His father has been living here for a long time and now that Jasper and his family have moved here, Jasper and his family can be together.

Welcome to Dallington!

## Mogg's Group

We have been rehearsing for our production of 'The Golden Sovereign', which is set in the Victorian Era, in the 1880s.

In Science we have been creating electrical circuits out of crocodile clip wires, light bulbs, motors, sirens and paper clips. We are also writing information about atoms, electricity, circuits and batteries into our Science books.

In English, we have been doing lots of reading and developing our comprehension skills

In Maths, Year 5 has been learning about graphs and Year 6 has been learning about number, from millions to thousandths.

In Art, we have been sewing and weaving.

In our Victorian Project we have been individually researching topics of interest.

Finally, in Sport we have been learning football skills: shooting, passing and teamwork.

### Looking For Something To Do This Weekend?

Visit the London Wetland Centre, Barnes and take part in CBBC's 'Live 'n Deadly murder mystery.' This is a great way for children to learn all about birds and their relationship with the environment. Allow a full afternoon to get around the centre and make the most of all it has to offer.

## OI' Blue Eyes

Can you guess who this blissful baby is?



The answer will be in the next newsletter.

### Interview with Mikey (Yr 1)



Q1. What is your favourite colour?

A1. Blue

Q2. What is your favourite activity at school?

A2. Playing with my friends

Q3. What is your favourite lesson at school?

A3. Swimming

Q4. Who helps make your day at school great?

A4. Ann

## Lucy and Oliver Shaw Can Swim!

On 12th November Lucy, Oliver and Jessica Shaw participated in 'The Great Big Swim' at the Mallinson Centre, Highgate. Altogether they swam: 3.5 miles!

Jessica - 248 lengths!!!

Lucy – 168 lengths!!

Oliver – 32 lengths!

Well done.

### True or False

The answers to last newsletter's 'True or False' were ... all ... true! Penguins are birds, Venus is the brightest planet in the night sky (next time you have a clear view of the night sky, see if you can spot it), and plants do sweat, though it's called 'transpiration.'

This week's food for thought is -

Is it impossible to cry in space?

Slugs have four noses.

80,000 photographs are taken in the world every second.

