



Headteacher: Mogg Hercules MBE

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Forthcoming Events

**Monday 22nd – Friday 26th
October**

Half Term Holiday

**Monday 29th October
School re-opens**

**Friday 2nd November
FoD Book Swap
& Cake Sale
Basement
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Monday 5th November
Year 4 Trip to
A Mystery Place**

**Friday 9th November
Early Years Disco
Basement
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Friday 16th November
Year 1 Disco
Basement
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

Social Media



Dallington School



@Dallington1978



Dallington School
Smartphone App
Free to download
iTunes App Store



Instagram
[dallingtonschool1978](https://www.instagram.com/dallingtonschool1978)

The Mogg Blog

Perhaps you have noticed the staff absences, due to illness, over the past few weeks.

We have tried to ensure that we cover those absences, rather than close the school, as seems to be happening elsewhere.

Sick children need to be at home for at least two days, so that others are not exposed to their sickness and should not be sent to school, having been dosed up with medicine, before they leave home.



This is such a busy time in the year. The children's excitement and anticipation about forthcoming events is so lovely to see and their enthusiasm for designing their Christmas cards recently was lovely to observe. We have now sent off all their colourful designs to the company that will turn them into official Christmas cards, and I am looking forward to see the finished results when they are delivered back to us.

Have a lovely time, with your children, during the break – and stay safe!

The AbBlog

Where did those six weeks go? One minute we were in a heat wave and now Halloween is imminent and I've Christmas songs to write. New Parent Band members are welcomed. If you play an instrument (however rustily) and you would like to join us at the Carol Concert on 12th December, please get in touch abi@dallingtonschool.co.uk



FoDNews

Happy new school year from Friends of Dallington!

We organise events like discos, book swaps, the Fete, trips and other resources to promote the Dallington community.

FoD is run by/relies on parents - so we need you! As little as an hour of your time makes a big difference for all of us.

Do feel free to email us. Thanks
friendsofdallington@gmail.com

Lower Nursery

In our classroom we have so many lovely toys that come in different shapes. We found toys that were squares, rectangles, circles and triangles. Not all children can accurately name these shapes, so when you are out and about with your child do talk about the different shapes that we can see all around us.



Do please regularly borrow books from us to take home. Reading aloud to your child stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world.



With our topic of 'Ourselves', we are giving all of the children a large sheet of paper to take home today. We would like you to decorate it with photographs of your family and perhaps photographs of different places that you have visited.

When these are finished and you bring them back to school, (in your own time), we shall encourage each child to talk about their family and their interests.



Barney, Cathy and Christine

Upper Nursery

This half term the children have been developing their literacy skills in a number of ways. Initially we have been looking at print in the environment and what it can be used for, and we have begun phonic-based activities in small group sessions as well as embedding it into our daily activities.

The role play area has been turned into a cafe where orders have been written down and menus created, therefore encouraging writing for a reason. Alongside this, other pre-reading activities have focussed heavily on rhyme and rhythm, hearing changes in the initial sounds to words, predicting what might happen next and using pictures to retell stories. These are all key skills needed to begin to read.

Our focus on rhyme has led us to read stories about 'Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy' by Lynley Dodd and for National Poetry Day the children have been learning 'The Owl and the Pussycat' by Edward Lear.



Next half term we will meet with all parents for an informal settling in review. Please sign up on the sheet in the classroom. We will also be raising money for...



Ambika, Christine and Sue

Year One

It has been lovely getting to know all our Year 1 children and at the end of this half term we thought it would be fitting to ask them what they have enjoyed about their learning so far.

Here is what they had to say:

Emiliano: "I really like Maths."

Ada: "I like playing with Gita."

Albie: "Sports!"

Elias: "I enjoy going swimming."

Gita: "Maths and guess the number of pebbles in the jar."
(A counting on number game)

Hector: "I like doing those Maths books."

Justus: "Sports!"

Dung: "Football Club."

Lara: "I like playing under the fort."

Leo: "Show and Tell." (*Special News*)

Lillianna: "I like my Maths counting book and colouring."

Lucien: "I like Sport with Coach Alex."

Miles: "Football Club."

Sarah: "I like turning the cards over and matching." (*High frequency word game called 'Pairs'*)

Tom: "I enjoy learning about letters."

We thoroughly enjoyed our Transition trip to the Little Angel Theatre to see The Everywhere Bear. As always, the puppets were brought to life with original music and the show explored the themes of loss, caring for others and friendship.

Speaking of friendships, Year 1 will be saying "Goodbye" to Sarah, who is off to a new home, a new school and whose family will soon be welcoming a new baby! We wish you lots of love, luck and happiness, Sarah. Come back to see us soon.

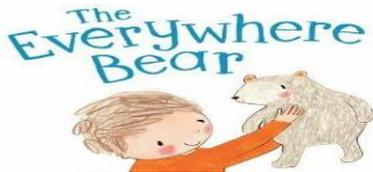
Here's to a restful holiday week next week with lots of autumnal weather!

Don't come to school, it will be closed!

Angela and Paula

Year Two

Our first half term ended with the whole of Transition going to The Little Angel Puppet Theatre, here in Islington, to see a production of 'The Everywhere Bear', based on the book by this term's group focus author, Julia Donaldson.



We have enjoyed listening to many of her stories and it has inspired the children to write their own books during our Writer's Workshop sessions. We have continued with our exploration of Van Gogh's Sunflower series and produced a beautiful set of observational drawings using pencil and oil pastels, as well as painting with watercolour and poster paints. "Tate Dallington" is on the top floor, so do come and look.

'Light' will be our focus next term where we shall be investigating its properties and the many festivals associated with it; Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas.



Well done all, an excellent start to the year – 'After victory tighten your helmet cords!' as my old school motto says.

We hope that you enjoy the half term break and return refreshed for our run-up to Christmas; gifts to make, new songs to learn, and of course our exciting Christmas show!

Eileen, Ann and Shakira.

Year Three

Our energetic students have been working hard on different attitudes. Three that have been significant to this group are **knowledge**, **risk-taking** and **balance**.

The students have been learning new **knowledge** in Maths by learning place value to 4 digits and adding large numbers using the column method. This week we have been learning to tell the time on an analogue clock. To help support this knowledge at home, ensure that you are talking about time as much as possible in terms of 'past' and 'to' the hour.

In Literacy the children have been focusing on book presentation, letter formations and using capital letters consistently. The children have learnt that capital letters should be used for:

- the start of a sentence.
- the name of a place and the name of a person.
- months and days of the week.
- for I, when referring to themselves.

In Topic we have been making posters about prehistoric Britain, and this has been a particular part of that history that interests them.

The next attitude the students have been encouraged to do is to **take risks** or be courageous when trying new skills. This may mean trying a new skill even though there is a high chance of failure. An example in class is spelling a new word.

The final attitude is a helpful one for getting homework completed. The class has been encouraged to be **balanced**. This means they need to balance their leisure time with their relaxation time.

I encourage them to balance 30 minutes of homework with 30 minutes of relaxation time.

Brad and Wendy

Happy Birthdays

All these children were born in the 10th month of the year, October. Which class is not represented here?

- LN – Olivia, Jarl, Matvei
- UN – Dylan
- Year 1 – Justus
- Year 2 – Hoai Anh, Avi
- Year 3 – Raphael
- Year 5 – Rachel
- Year 6 – Frankie, Johan, Oscar, Aki



Middle School Writing Workshop

Earlier this month, Brad launched a Middle School Writing Workshop, designed to unleash all the storytelling skills and thrills that live in Middle School.

Everyone worked in little teams, made up of people from different year groups.

Brad introduced the workshop to everyone using a picture stimulus to get the creative juices flowing – though teams were free to fly in a completely different direction if they chose.

It was an incredibly lively session and on every corner of the floor, the teams gave a masterclass in collaboration. With the youngest children in charge of the actual writing, everyone contributed to the evolving story, with the oldest children bringing their greater experience and vocabulary to bear. At the end of the session, everyone was brought back together to share their ideas – which were brilliantly exciting and imaginative. Watch this space for Workshop Number 2 and for a photo display of the day!

Year Four

Year Four is continuing to explore magic in literature this term. We have been looking at the poem 'The Lady of Shalott', by the British poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809–1892). It tells the story of a young noble woman imprisoned in a tower on an island near Camelot. She can only watch the outside world through a mirror and must weave what she sees. She has heard that if she looks at Camelot directly, she will be cursed.

Wilf and Rishi were so inspired by the poem that they worked during their break times to create their own version of it. Here is an extract from their poem;

The Enchanted Field

**By light of day a lady sits,
Quill in hand,
In the field of Alidan,
Rows of poppies and pansies
fill the field,
Who knows if will she ever
leave?
The enchantment hit her like a
stone,
Leaving a chill to the bone,
Her eyes flickered, She fell
asleep with a whimper,
Her nightmares were
horrendous in the cold,
And there she lay, not so
bold. Night fell upon her. She
shivered and quivered in the
moonlight,
And squeezed herself ever so
tight,
Then she awoke in another
world,
Standing out like a pearl.
She could hear beautiful
birds,
Flapping their wings and lots
of other strange things.
Suddenly she could hear
stomping, lots of stomping...**

We hope you have a fantastic half-term!

Catherine and Sam

Royal Institution Science Workshop Exploding Food!

On Thursday 4 October, Transition and Middle School enjoyed a Science workshop with the wow factor!

Presented by Natasha, from the Royal Institution, we learned about food, nutrition and digestion in the most explosive way. The morning workshop was in Transition and the whole of Dallington suddenly knew about it when an experiment set off the fire alarm and we all had to have a proper fire drill.

We were so proud of how quickly and quietly everyone left the building.



After lunch, it was Middle School's turn - from flaming jelly babies to an inferno of flour, we all gathered new and fascinating facts about the food that we eat and what happens to it.

Make sure you ask your Middle Schooler to describe the Journey of Sophie's Breakfast! It is quite possible that you heard the delighted screaming from your homes and offices! You could even offer them banana and beans on toast for breakfast during the upcoming holidays.

We can't wait for our next Royal Institution workshop later in the school year when we plug into electricity and enjoy the Feel The Power show.

Maria

Years Five & Six

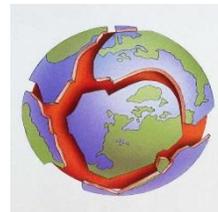
What an action-packed term we have had thus far! All the children have been beavering away at their topics with typical Dallington levels of great enthusiasm.

In Science we looked at real ox hearts to help us understand the part that the heart plays in the circulatory system...an activity that is certainly not for the *faint-hearted!* The children were all very brave and really got stuck in...more specifically in the vena cava.



That was not all for Science though; we were also lucky enough to have a visit from the Royal Institute entitled Explosive Food. This was all about the science behind what our bodies do with the food that we eat.

As part of our Oceania and the Pacific topic, we have been learning about the causes of the terribly devastating Indonesian earthquake and tsunami. This has led to some interesting research about plate tectonics and the effects that they have in various parts of the world.



Add to that all the story writing, long division and activities that they have been getting up to, it is about time for a well-earned rest. Happy Half Term Holiday everyone!

Sophie, Mogg and Janet