



Headteacher: Mogg Hercules

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Forthcoming Events

**FoD Years 3 and 4
Basement Disco
Friday 22nd March
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Year 3
Really Wild Camp
Thursday 28th – Friday 29th**

**Circus Skills
Friday 29th**

**FoD Years 5 and 6
Basement Disco
Friday 29th
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Transition Trip to
Little Angel Puppet Theatre
Wednesday 3rd April**

**Break-up at 12:00 midday
Friday 5th April**

**Summer Term starts
Tuesday 30th April**

Social Media



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Hercules Blog

All the children and staff embraced International Women's Day on Friday March 8th. Whiteboards were filled with eminent women past and present and discussions were had about the women who inspire and influence, entertain and educate, nurture and liberate us...be they in the public sphere, at school or at home. Middle School children and staff even seized a photo opportunity to pose with IWD placards.



At the end of the day, Brad, Tom and Milko invited the staff to Middle School, to raise a glass to the wonderful women of Dallington! We hope you took a moment to celebrate or be celebrated too.
Abi & Mogg



FoD

10th May FoD Book Swap & Cake Sale 3:30 pm, sponsored by Middle School.

23rd and 24th May FoD Meeting - planning for the Fete on 6th July.



So far this term, we co-funded some new playground equipment purchases together with school and we raised over £600 from Quiz Night and the Book Swap & Cake Sale sponsored by Upper and Lower Nursery.

Later this term we have the Middle School discos which should be great fun.



Next term we'll be getting into full gear planning for the Fete on 6th July. Please mark your calendars to attend, and please get ready to help out.

We'll also have another Book Swap & Cake Sale, an FoD planning meeting and welcome parties at the playground for incoming nursery kids.

Have a great April holiday!



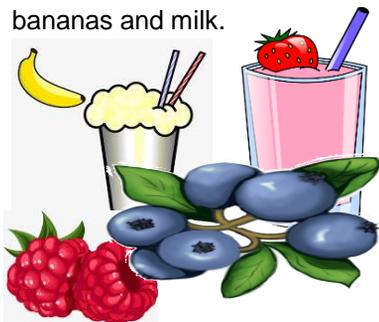
Lower Nursery

World Book Day was a delightful day with the majority of our class dressed up in a variety of book-related costumes.

We had two Tigers Who Came To Tea, a Peter and a Benjamin Rabbit, two Gruffalos, two dinosaurs, one unicorn, a pirate and an assortment of other characters. A big 'Thank you!' to those helpful parents who managed to come with us to the book shop.

The children have been enjoying a variety of different foods that have been brought in over the past few weeks: lychees, plantain chips, pancakes, passion fruit, physalises etc.

We have also made our own milkshakes with a choice of either blueberries, raspberries or strawberries to add to the bananas and milk.



Many children do not yet know how to peel a banana, so parents, do help them to do this activity at home, as it is a great skill to learn, especially for the hungry! A tip: it's easier from the opposite end to the stalk!

We have recently purchased new toys and resources, and palettes of watercolour paints which have been extremely popular. There should soon be a display of the children's watercolour paintings up on the staircase outside our classroom. The originals of their life-size paintings, that are presently there, will be available to take home if you wish, so do ask if you would like your child's very large painting!

Barney, Cathy and Christine

Upper Nursery

From planes, trains and automobiles to rockets and space travel! Our exciting trip to the Science Museum introduced the children to how astronauts travel in space and what they need to help them survive. We will be making our very own rockets out of all sorts of materials, reading a range of books, counting backwards and learning names of the planets.



With Science Week this week, we have also been exploring what Science means. Here are some thoughts, "looking closely at things with your eyes" "making potions" "learning about evolution"! Well, we are making a start with exploring floating and sinking, mixing ingredients together to see what happens, and learning about cause and effect.



We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents that helped us on our trips last week to the Science Museum and Waterstone's bookshop for World Book Day. What a busy week it was!

Ambika, Christine and Sue

Year One

What a busy time we have all recently had! Learning about wind in all its forms - from gentle breezes to hurricanes and making and flying kites.

We also had lovely celebrations for Pancake Day and World Book Day and we sang "Hooray, hooray for International Women's Day!"

Our Maths focus has been hands on exploration of the relationship between 2D and 3D shapes in our Geometry sessions and in Literacy the children are working on recount writing in the form of Weekend News, each Monday morning.

Our Guest Speaker this week was Gita's mum, Urmila Kraev. Urmila is an astrophysicist and we were very lucky and excited to hear her talk about the weather in space! The children and staff were enthralled – what an intriguing subject!

This week Year 1 spent an interesting morning at Global Generation Skip Garden. It was lovely to see an ex-Dallington teacher and old friend, Rod Sugden, leading the workshop, during which we discussed the types of weather certain plants need to grow as well as variations in soil. We also explored weathervanes and the direction of winds.

Transition children have been totally absorbed in an Alexander McCall Smith book called "Precious and the Monkeys". He is the author of the best-selling "No.1 Ladies Detective Agency" series set in Botswana. Precious Ramotswe is the main character and we read about her first case as a 7-year-old detective.

Finally, the Year 1 "6 Club" welcomes a new member, Gita, who celebrates her 6th birthday tomorrow!

Happy Birthday, Gita!



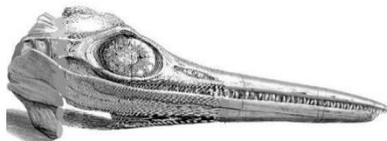
Angela and Paula

Year Two

We all loved our exciting visit to the Natural History Museum. The workshop facilitator was impressed by the young Palaeontologists of Dallington! The children had prepared well, displaying their knowledge and skills by answering questions accurately and working together to construct dinosaur jigsaws, before investigating the fossilised skeleton of 'Sophie' the Stegosaurus.

As well as our factual work, the children have enjoyed being imaginative in creative writing producing their own story books about travelling back in time to the Land of the Dinosaurs, as well as creating dinosaur poems.

They are busy collating their project books with fact files and a time line showing the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. At the museum we saw the ichthyosaur that Mary Anning found, as well as a statue of Charles Darwin and learnt about evolution.



Fossilised head of an ichthyosaur.

We have recently had Internet Safety, Well Being Week, Pancake Day, World Book Day – a great trip to Waterstone's in a variety of colourful costumes – International Women's Day, and Milko starting Scratch Junior Coding and Science sessions investigating Materials.

We also had a very special visitor, Ada's gorgeous new baby brother, Reo Ray, congratulations to all the family from Year 2!



An artist's impression!

Eileen and Ann

Year Three

Entering the classroom, you may think that you had been teleported to Chinatown. From the blossom tree scroll paintings, to the dragon that we sewed and decorated together, the topic of China has been wholly embraced.



Our trip to Chinatown for Chinese New Year was a delight to the senses. It was lovely to see how responsible and respectful the children were and they represented Dallington School very proudly indeed.

We have been working hard to put together our production of the Chinese Zodiac story. Whether it was writing the play script, memorising our lines and even making our own moveable shadow puppets, we encouraged and supported each other every step of the way.

We are currently exploring some of the exotic-shaped and vibrant-coloured fruits that are typically found in Chinese markets. We have been using vivid colour-mixing whilst honing our observational skills to depict in detail the seed structure of these fruits.

World Book Day saw a number of amazing costumes as everyone entered into the spirit of the occasion and brought in their favourite books to share with the class.

Finally, we are incredibly excited to go on our fun-filled camping adventure later this month, where we will unearth new skills and make memories that will hopefully last a lifetime.

Tom and Wendy

Happy Birthdays

Two months of birthdays here; March and April!

How many children in Year 6 are having birthdays?

March

UN Nayla, Rose

Y1 Gita

Y2 Thomas Henry, Daisy, Caspar

Y3 Nicolo, Kaia, Samuel

Y4 Freya, Lazar

Y5 Bronwen



April

LN Isabel, Kitty Raie, Indy

UN Adar Jax, Archie, Josh, Ileana

Y1 Elias Nolas, Leonato

Y2 Matilda, Magdalena, Luca, Ada

Y3 Luciano, Sophia

Y4 Rishi

Y5 Matylda

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is a UK-wide fundraising event organised by the charity Comic Relief. When you donate money to this cause, you are supporting vulnerable people and communities in the UK and internationally. Red Nose Day in 2015 was a very special event. If the end-of-night total of £78,082,988 wasn't impressive enough, it brought the amount raised by Comic Relief, since its inception in 1985, to more than £1 billion! It is all thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the British public.

Let's see what amount gets raised this year!



Year Four

World Book Day? What is your favourite book?

'Mr Stink. It's quite unusual and gets kind of sad at the end.' - Avalon

'I would recommend Against All Gods because it's sad, funny and hopeful ... I love it!' - Davids

'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.' - Freya

'I enjoyed the Demon Dentist because it is very funny and gross!' - Georgie

'I recommend The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas.' - Bea

'My favourite is the second Harry Potter, because of all the magic and it's exciting.' - Theodora

'My favourite is The Last Chance Hotel.' - Iona

'My recommendation is The Wolves of Willoughby Chase.' - Leila

'My favourite is Harry Potter.' - Kotone

'My favourite is Deep Blue, part of the Waterfire Saga.' - Eloise

'I would recommend Bad Dad as it's quite funny and happy.' - Lazar

'My favourite is Ronaldo (Ultimate Football Heroes).' - Orlando

'I love The Midnight Gang. It is really funny and out of control.' - Mariana

'I recommend Hari and his Electric Feet because it has a great storyline and is very descriptive.' - Rishi

'I like the plot of The Wizards of Once.' - Toby

'I would recommend Messi to football lovers, as it inspired me to never give up and follow my dream.' - Wilfred

'I like Diamond Girls because it's about four girls trying to find a perfect home with their mum.' - Emily

'I like The Demon Dentist because the characters are very funny.' - Louis



Catherine and Sam

Dallington Goes Really Wild!

Year 3 is now whimpering with excitement, as there are now only 13 sleeps until their Really Wild Camp!

This inaugural Really Wild residential trip is the launch of the new Dallington Outdoor Education Programme. This programme is being planned in partnership with Really Wild Education and is designed to ensure all Dallington children develop the skills and attitudes that will positively impact their wellbeing, self-esteem and educational success.

At the end of this month, Year 3 will set off for East Sussex, where they will be busy applying themselves to fire-starting, knife skills, wood whittling, wild bread making & shelter building – all in the wild woods, where they will be camped!



Over the coming weeks and months, every Dallington class will be availing of their own Really Wild experience – in school, in London and beyond.

As we look ahead to the new school year in September 2019, this programme will continue to evolve in ever more exciting ways but you can be sure that there will be wild challenges, adventures aplenty and massive fun ahead!



Years Five & Six

We have had quite an incredible start to the half term! A zoo trip, Pancake Day, World Book Day, International Women's Day and in-between we have been busy making murals and decorating our classroom to look like a rainforest!

In drama, one of the two groups performed their skills in a show called 'Land of the Dinosaurs' to the Transition children.

In writing we have been publishing our information reports on rainforest animals. Brad commented that he is amazed with the quality of Year 5's writing.

Milko is back, and he is with us every Friday morning for what he thinks is 'cool science'.

This week we had to find out what substances dissolve in water. Were you aware that oil floats on top of water?

Maya and Bronwen (Year 5)



Half term feels like a distant memory for all of us in Year 6.

Our Rainforest continues to flourish and we are now beginning to focus on the Amazon, although not before taking a look at the palm oil industry. Year 6 were astonished at some of the data that we unearthed!

They then used their mathematical skills to display some of this data in their topic books. We have also been looking at the life and works of the Victorian explorer and artist, Marianne North.



Sophie and Janet