



Headteacher: Mogg Hercules

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Forthcoming Events

FOD Meeting

7:30pm Tuesday 20th January
Dallington Basement

Parents Cyber Safety session
9:10 – 10:10am, Thursday 22nd
January

Circus Skills Workshop
Whole School
Friday 23rd January

FOD Quiz Night
Saturday 7th February
At Vivat Bacchus
47 Farringdon St, EC4A 4LL

Social Media

Have you bought your ticket to attend F.O.D & Dallington School's Quiz Night yet? Why not post a photo of your ticket along with your best piece of trivia to one of our social media accounts! Be a super sleuth and check out your 'competition' in advance! But seriously, this is a great night out in a social setting with welcome fizz, a hot supper and a raffle. So dust off the Trivial Pursuit and read the papers because there will be no phoning friends! Don't forget to tag your best brainbending questions with #FODQuiz



Dallington School
(London)



@Dallington1978



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The Mogg Blogg

If you read the article in Saturday's Times on January 10th, based on an interview with the headmistress of Kensington Prep, it contained ratios of candidates to places, which are rarely published. Thousands of children are taking exams, this month, for entry to Senior schools in September and the number of candidates, for very few places has doubled but, on the whole, hardly any new private schools have opened. This year, there were ten candidates for every one place, with children being entered for up to six schools. Is this what we really want for children? If not, how can we challenge this process of selection, which certainly has an element of stress, not only for the children, but also for the parents?

Mogg

Safeguarding and Child Protection

In light of current Child Protection and Safeguarding regulations, staff members are no longer permitted to be responsible for children left at the main door at pick-up and drop-off times. We must ask you to be responsible for your own children at these times. May we suggest that you 'buddy up' with a fellow parent and take it in turns to collect or stay with sleeping babies. If you are a new parent and would like some support with this then please talk to a member of staff who can help you meet another parent. We are sure you will understand the necessity for putting this regulation into practice.

The Ablog

Happy New Year everyone! I do hope you had a chance to have a break and some precious family time. This year promises technological advancements, School Camp, Circus skills, a playground revamp, online registration, a second school CD and so much more!

Here's to 2015, the Year of the Sheep. We're not sheep!

Abi

Circus Skills

Back by popular demand, the team at Press Play will be visiting the children on Friday 23rd January to teach a number of exciting Circus Skills! This workshop is the result of profits made by the children from the sale of their Christmas Cards and a generous contribution from FOD. Thank you!

Great for hand-eye coordination, balance and self confidence, we may just decide to all run away and join the circus afterall!

Charity Corner

Thank you to everyone who gave generously to the Christmas Carol Concert's retiring collection for Shelter. Thank you also to all the children and adults who got behind Slippers For Shelter Day last term. Did you know that combined, we raised a *whopping* **£813.10** to help contribute to combat homelessness! Stay tuned for our next good cause to get behind...

Lower Nursery

A very big thank you for the Christmas gifts and cards, they were all very much appreciated!

Lower Nursery has welcomed three new children who are settling well and becoming familiar with the school environment. This term our topic is Traditional Tales and our story focuses will be Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Gingerbread Man, Sleeping Beauty, Hansel & Gretel and Jack and the Beanstalk. Our main objective for this theme is to encourage critical thinking and reasoning by asking open ended questions.

During the first week back, the children got straight into 'party mode' and asked for music and other party stuff to be added to the home corner. Many spent much of last week dancing to pop music. This week we have turned the role play area into the Three Bears' Cottage which has encouraged the children to act out the story, using intonation and masks to distinguish which character they are.

In order to continue to encourage the children to eat a variety of different foods, they made oats porridge and added different toppings such as raisins and honey. They have also been categorising objects according to size. In an adult led activity the children enjoyed posting different size objects into the correct size boxes. We have been thinking about different words to describe size, such as large, tiny, middle size, etc.

Please don't forget to bring in a photograph of your child either in snow or outside in winter clothes by Monday 19th January.

Stacey, Cathy and Christine

Upper Nursery

The children have returned from the holidays full of wonderful talk about presents, family days out and trips abroad. They are all settling back into the routine of school and are enjoying seeing all their friends again. Upper Nursery staff would like to say a huge thank you to all the children and parents for all the wonderful gifts and cards. We also welcomed Valentine and her family to our group.

Our topic this term is 'Materials', including the properties of wood, fabric, metal and glass. If you have anything you would like to bring in to support this topic please bring this to school Our cross curricular topic will include weaving natural materials, so bits of ivy, flowers, natural pieces of fabric would be much appreciated.



After the first term where by we reinforced the children's knowledge and understanding about rhyme and alliteration and distinguishing sounds we have moved on to our phonic sessions. The children are having fun learning the sounds to the letters of the alphabet by taking part in multi sensorial activities to help support their understanding, for example writing letters in sand, in the air, on white boards and learning songs to support this. We are putting sounds together to make three letter CVC words as well as learning some high frequency words.

Ambika, Sue, Paula, Christine and Melissa

Year One

Welcome back for another exciting term – Year 1 have returned with their fantastic holiday diaries and we are so impressed by the obvious time and effort spent by you all. The children are enjoying sharing these splendid books and having the opportunity to learn about each other and what a lovely time you all had during the Christmas break.

This term our topic is Traditional Tales – we have started with Cinderella. We are learning about narrative structure and character and extending our creative writing. As the clock strikes twelve – we are investigating Time and we are making clocks and learning to tell the time - starting with o'clock and half past. Please support your child at home by practising the days of the week and the months of the year and referring to the time during the day. We will be visiting the Geffrye Museum this half term to participate in a workshop- 'Albert the Mouse' – where we will learn about life in the past. More details to follow.

Currently we have been making laptops during free play. Matilda's design inspired us to make toy computers and we have shared our ideas with Year 2.



Look out Tim Cook and Bill Gates!

Meanwhile, next week in school we have an exciting Circus Skills Workshop to look forward to and help us develop our physical prowess!!!

Thank you again, for all the wonderful Christmas wishes and gifts.

Val, Ann and Eileen

Year Two

We have had a cracking start to the New Year as we continue to delve into our UNESCO themed Topic: 2015 International Year of Light and Light Based Technologies. We have made contact with Foti Fireworks, the company responsible for designing the Sydney New Year's Eve Fireworks display, to ask open ended questions about being a pyrotechnician. We would like to thank Jeremy Pollard (Felix & Lily's dad) for being our special guest on Thursday, for taking long aperture photographs of us holding sparklers. The images capture the range of movement the light made and were inspired by photos taken of Picasso by Gjon Mili in 1949!

In Science, we have been investigating how light can bounce, bend and be absorbed. We have made periscopes using empty juice cartons, mirrors and tape in order to bounce light via secured, angled mirrors in order to see beyond obstacles! We have even tested them on observing Year 1!



Shh! Year 2 is spying on Year 1 with juice carton periscopes!

We are excited about having our new Smart Television in Transition which was installed last Friday! Located on the wall opposite the common area, we will be using it for many activities for the remainder of the year, from Mathematics to Literacy, Science to Art and everything in between!

Thank you to parents and children for your cards and gifts at the end of last term – We are truly touched!

Megan, Angela & Wendy

Year Three

Year 3 are finishing off our topic of Space by studying and exploring constellations.

Felix this week brought in his "Deep Space" projector which was fascinating to view. Also, we have been viewing our own "Dallington Planetarium". In a darkened room, the machine sends clear images of stars up to the ceiling. With its projections, we are starting to identify some of the well known constellations like Orion, The Plough and Draco.



Orion constellation

Further to our explorations of constellations we are now starting our to create our own Space slide shows. The slide shows will be on the first part of the Universe Story. Year 3's mission is to choose different images of space and then put them together using special effects in a program called "Photostory 3". We will then add text to the slides using different font, colour, size and position. Finally we will add narration and music. Y3 are already starting to become very excited by the results they are producing!

All this is in some way preparation for our trip to the Greenwich Planetarium this Friday. We all very excited by all the activities there and with the prospect of touching a real meteor formed at the beginning of the Solar system!

Rod and Sam

Happy Birthday!

It's a brand new year! And if that wasn't already exciting enough, these Dallington children also have birthdays to celebrate!

LN - John

UP – Emrik, Suhail

Yr1 – Zein, Sofia, Beatrice

Yr2 - Theo

Yr4 - Milou



F.O.D

We are delighted to announce that a parents' quiz night will again be held this year in aid of FOD on Saturday 7th of February from 7PM at Vivat Bacchus, 47 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4LL. 020 7353 2648.



<http://www.vivatbacchus.co.uk/find-us/>

It's a great opportunity to socialise and meet staff and parents from different year groups. The ticket price (£25) will include a welcome drink, supper and entry to the quiz. Tickets are now on sale in the school office.

Our Next FOD Meeting will be held on Tuesday January 20th at 7:30PM at the school in the basement. Please join us for some wine and nibbles.

Thanks,
Tracy

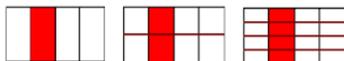
Year Four

Year 4 has commenced 2015 by looking at back at what they have achieved in 2014, and by looking ahead to the coming year.

The children were asked what they thought their biggest achievements were in 2014, and here's what they wrote:

'Learning to understand fractions. I always thought fractions were impossible numbers here and there. Now I know it's not actually very hard and I feel very proud of myself.'

Evie



$$\frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{4}{16}$$

'My biggest achievements were moving house and making new friends because I didn't know anyone here. I gave it a go and I love it!' Lottie May

'I feel my biggest achievement last year was learning not to scare my hamster.' Anna

'I feel my biggest achievement was to learn how to do beautiful, joined up handwriting.' Joshua

'Having a skateboard lesson with my friend! I learnt how to go down a ramp. I was nervous but I still did it.' Milou

'My biggest achievement was getting into the National Children's Orchestra. I played violin for the audition. I wasn't sure about how it went but when we got the letter I was really excited!' Amelia

We hope that you achieved something great in 2014 and achieve something wonderful in 2015. Happy New Year from Year 4!

Catherine and Sam

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is coming early to Dallington this year! Officially marked on February 10th, Cliodhna (pronounced: Klee-na) Purdue, from Childnet, will be visiting us on **Thursday 22nd January** to speak to parents, children and staff about cyber-safety.



This year's theme is *'Let's create a better internet together'* and Cliodhna will be sharing the European Commission's approved recommendations with us to help ensure safe, responsible and positive uses of information based technologies for children and young people.

Now in its 11th year, Childnet's Safer Internet Day's message is as relevant as ever. We encourage you to come along to this informative presentation where any questions you may have regarding children using e-technologies will be addressed. For those of you who are unable to attend, you are always welcome to speak with your child's teacher about safe online behaviours.



For more information on reviewing your own safe online practices and how to talk to your child about e-safety, visit:

www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers

or www.saferinternetday.org.uk

Years Five & Six

Spare a thought for our Yr 6 students as they navigate the choppy waters of Entrance Exams and school interviews. The pressure that we (and I speak collectively of all adults) are placing our young people under has well and truly surpassed reasonable proportions. It is unfair. I am lucky to spend my week days teaching this polite, thoughtful, funny, friendly group of Year Six children. These attributes alone make them valuable members of any organisation, but placed alongside their academic talents, which have been measured against nationwide, standardised assessment I know that they are capable of going on to great things as they move up through higher education. I can only hope that this half-term passes quickly for this group of wonderful kids.

In Computing, we are focussing on on-line safety, which is especially important this week after the tragic death of Breck Bednar. Please, come to our meeting on cyber-safety happening next week (a letter was sent home).

Eliza and Amelie have kindly agreed to organise 'Friday Baking' this term. They have made everyone a notice outlining who their partner is, when their Friday is and what not to bake. Nice work, you two!

A plea – please check with your child that they still have a recorder and a pair of tap shoes that fit, as they are expected to be responsible for bringing both these things to the respective lessons.



Mogg, Jay and Janet