



Headteacher: Mogg Hercules

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Forthcoming Events

Autumn Open Evening
Wednesday 4th October
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Parent/Teacher Meetings
& Settling-in Reviews
16th – 20th October

School Finishes
Friday 20th October

Half Term Holiday
Monday 23rd – Friday 27th
October

Circus Skills Day
Wednesday 3rd November



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The Mogg Blog

It is so interesting getting to know a new group and meeting new entrants, at the start of a new academic year. Year 6, in particular, has been looking forward to occupying places, on the sofa, on the stage, with a global view of Middle School. All seem to have had a growth spurt. So, welcome back, or welcome to, the Autumn Term 2017.



Rehearsals for the Carol Concert are already underway and I am anticipating that, by December, Easter eggs will be in the shops.

All I ask is that the Year 6 group, puts aside reminders that this will be the last time they will take part in our Carol Concert! I do not feel ready for our fond farewells just yet!

Love Singing?

Then you would probably love the Highbury Youth Choir which is run by Sarah, our lovely music teacher.

We're currently looking for North London's best young singers aged from 6 up to 18. If you think that you would enjoy this, do come along to Christ Church, Highbury N5 1SA on Thursdays. Ages 6-11 from 4-5 p.m. Ages 11-18 from 5:15-6:30 p.m.



The AbBlog

I recently cleared out the loft at home and Mogg (being a hoarder) had kept all my books from childhood. We have been reading well-thumbed copies of Captain Pugwash, The Story of Little Black Sambo, Where the Wild Things Are and In the Night Kitchen, all of which have garnered their own controversy about which we were entirely unaware as children! The pleasure of sharing history is a joy and I have resolved to continue the tradition...



We have an Open Evening for Prospective parents on Wednesday 4th October. We would welcome the involvement of Class Reps. or indeed any of you at the event as one cannot underestimate the value of a current parent's view of our school. Please let me know if you are free to join us for a glass of wine.



And finally, three exciting words:
School Band – Christmas.

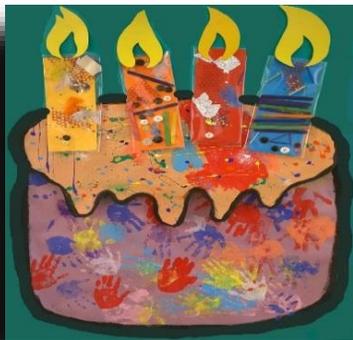
Lower Nursery

The new children, that recently joined our class, have settled in extremely well and are already used to the routines and structures of the day. Well done all of you! We are very pleased to have you all here!

We are learning how to make play dough, how to sound out our names and, most importantly, how to play well alongside our friends.

'Ourselves' is the topic that we have started with this term. We are currently talking about how much we have grown since we were babies and what we are now able to do that we could not do then.

Imagine our surprise when we found out that we all have birthdays! Here is a large cake that the children helped make for a display.



The children have been learning about different body parts by singing the song 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'. To help us remember these words, we decided to make two large people, a boy and a girl, to have on display, and to label them accordingly. The children loved making their clothes by sticking a wide variety of materials onto these people. Hugo commented, while gluing the hair on the boy, 'It's like sticking sprinkles onto little biscuits!'

Barney, Cathy and Christine

Upper Nursery

The new academic year has seen the new children settling in well. Welcome to them and their families. We have begun our topic of 'Getting to Know You' by playing games to learn others' names and spending time getting used to the new environment, routines and classroom expectations.



Ada's self-portrait.

We have had our first cooking session which began with making traffic light jam tarts! Cooking in our class begins with the children learning about the health and hygiene aspect and the skills involved with rolling pastry. As the year progresses these skills develop to kneading, cutting, chopping and grating etc. Cooking covers all areas of development such as learning new language, listening to instructions, measuring and counting, learning about where food comes from, discussing likes and dislikes, as well as seeing how ingredients combine and react.

Thank you to Lucien's mother for coming in to the classroom and talking to the children about Rosh Hashanah. The apples dipped in honey were so sweet! Over the next few weeks the children will be involved in Autumnal activities, looking at the changes that are occurring and learning rhymes, songs and listening to stories. Please bring in anything relevant that you find to add to our investigative table; conkers, leaves and books. Ambika, Christine, Sue and Melissa

Year One

Welcome to Transition! We have had a wonderful few weeks settling into life in Year 1 and we are enthusiastic about the year ahead!

Here are a few quotes from the children about what they have enjoyed so far...

'The best thing is Maths. I like trying to write (different ways of representing the number one).' Caspar B

'I like going swimming. The best part is going under water and blowing bubbles.' Mia



'I like the Maths because we got to stick coins in our book.'

Macie

'Everything! I like Art. It's fun blowing bubbles (in paint) to make pictures.' Casper J

'I really like French. I can say "Bonjour".' Arthur

We had a wonderful trip yesterday to the Little Angel Theatre, where we watched a performance of 'Zeraffa Giraffa.' It explored what it is like to be 'different' as well as the important themes of courage, perseverance and compassion which we feel are compatible with the Dallington ethos.

We marked the changing of the seasons with an Autumnal walk to St. James' churchyard where we collected a variety of leaves, conkers, twigs and bark. We later classified our findings based upon leaf shapes and colours. We learned that leaves need chlorophyll, enhanced by the sun, to remain green and that the reduced sunlight in Autumn is what turns them a multitude of colours.



Megan, Angela and Paula

Year Two

Everyone is so happy to be back at Dally with their friends and Ann and Eileen are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

Our topic work will focus on Autumn and Shape as we settle into our new routines.

We've hit the ground running with a local visit to see Morag Myerscough and Luke Morgan's two vibrant installations in Smithfield. These are both a wonderful riot of colours, shapes and symbols. We plan to use this visit to inspire the creation of our own installation in Transition, as we explore Shape and Pattern combining mathematics and art. "JOY & PEACE, is a response to the fractious times we are all living in. We felt strongly that we wanted to make a piece of work that was full of positivity, hope, strength and the power to bring people together with joy in the heart of London for Culture Mile," say Myerscough and Morgan.



Both pieces feature the pair's trademark; hand-painted vibrant geometric styles. JOY is a 97 metre-long installation which grows out of the openings along the Barbican Centre car park. PEACE is set in an historic garden, creating "a place for people to gather, relax and socialise with the pavilion being the centre piece and stage for the performances and activities which have never been seen in this garden before."

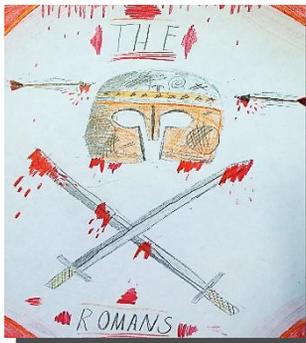
An excellent start, watch out for all the positivity on the top floor!
Eileen and Ann

Year Three

Year 3 has been enjoying a fantastic first few weeks adapting to life in Middle School. We have begun our new topic – The Romans. We used the projector in the basement to watch a documentary about them.



We learned all about how they conquered Britain and this inspired our topic cover sheets. Louis did a brilliant job:



In Maths we have been focusing on solving word problems. Some even wrote their own: 'I had 9999 books and I gave 8814 away. How many do I have left?' *George*

With the rest of Middle School, Year 3 ventured up to Union Chapel to watch the musical of Fever Pitch. Everyone sang along and had a great time!



Milko and Wendy

Happy Birthdays

These are the 13 children who have their birthdays in the month of September.

LN Felix, Huxley, Edie
UN Albie
Y1 Casper,
Y2 Caio, Henry
Y3 Wilfred, Beatrice
Y4 Tabitha
Y5 Joshua
Y6 Roman, Felix



Charity Corner

Thank you to everyone who came along to today's 'Welcome Back to Dallington' morning tea, which also doubles as a fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support. We are delighted with the response this year; so many tasty treats prepared by our parents and teachers. We should all be on the next series of the Great British Bake Off!



We are still collating monies raised and shall share our total with you once it is finalised. It is always a pleasure to welcome new and old members of our Dallington community to get together over a cuppa. Therefore a big thank you to parents, grandparents and nannies that were able to attend. The children looked terrific in their green, purple and white clothes.



Last term we collected money for the Dogs Trust, and we are now the proud sponsors of a lovely dog called Honey. Be sure to look for the poster of Honey on the stairwell to find out all about her.

Megan
Charity Coordinator

Year Four

Our topic this term is The Earth. To begin with, the children were asked to present some of the things they already knew about this subject;

'The Earth is a planet with lots of species of animals living on it.'

Tabby

'Did you know that the Earth has more water than land?'

Layan

'Did you know that the Earth has lungs? They are the rainforests!'

Matylda

'The Earth is 4½ billion years old!'

Alexander

'Trees provide oxygen for the Earth.'

Ethan

'Earth is the third planet from the sun.'

Alex

'The Earth moves very slowly as it goes from day to night.'

Rachel

'Once upon a time there was nothing in the Universe, only a tiny speck of dust.'

Tabitha

'People cut down trees to make paper.'

Sofia

'Did you know that London is much colder than where I used to live?'

India

'The centre of the Earth is very hot!'

Raon

'The Earth is a beautiful planet and it provides life, air, trees and of course, us!'

Bronwen

'Trees are vital because they provide oxygen, and also homes for birds or dreys (nests) for squirrels.'

Maya

Catherine and Sam

Meet the new SENCo!

Tina has been a SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) for three years and has been teaching for more than ten. A SENCo is an experienced teacher who also holds the SENCo qualification.



They work primarily to help identify and support children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. However, SENCos are there for everybody!

Sometimes children find it difficult to progress in a certain area of their learning and need a bit of extra support to close the gap. The SENCo may work with the children, teachers and parents to find some short or long term strategies to help the child.

Learning can also be affected by a significant change outside of school such as a new baby, bereavement or perhaps a medical issue. The SENCo may offer support to children during these times.

If you would like to talk about anything concerning your child, or would just like an informal chat, do please feel free to contact Tina.

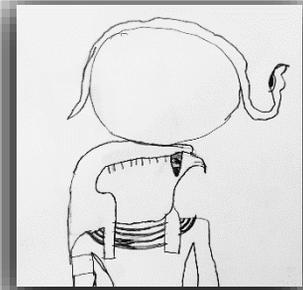


Years Five & Six

It has been a phenomenal start to the year for Years 5 and 6!

It is our pleasure to welcome Shoab with us this year, teaching in Middle School.

We have begun to explore the life, art and culture of Ancient Egypt. So far, we have looked at the myths and legends of what they believed in and also studied some of their artwork.



A close-up of Tayto's great work.

In English, Year 6 has been writing their own creative Egyptian myths, while Year 5 is writing an essay about the features of myths.

'Earth and Beyond' is our current Science topic. We will be examining how the planets, and other celestial bodies, move in the Solar System, as well as the different phases of the moon.



In Maths we have looked at solving problems and providing explanations for our methods.

We have also been to watch a musical production of Nick Hornby's 'Fever Pitch' at the Union Chapel.

Ruben, in Year 6, thought that it was an excellent production for football fans of all ages, but that as a Chelsea fan, could not agree with the main character's choice of team!

Thank you to Sarah, our music teacher, for organising a wonderful afternoon.

Shoab, Janet and Mogg