



# Primary School Newsletter

24 February 2017

## Gardening trip

A group of Islington park rangers and apprentices invited children to come and improve local neglected spaces by planting. On Tuesday, Mrs Baker-Spencer took some members of last year's gardening club to plant and make bird feeders to hang on the trees at the car free open space on the corner of Barnsbury Street and Liverpool Road. Thank you to the group and Mrs Baker-Spencer for helping to improve our local area.



Quentin, Ovie and Gerrard planting.

## World Book Day

A note went out earlier this week to let you know about World Book Day next Thursday. During the day, children will be taking part in different reading activities. Children can come to school dressed as a character from a book. We will also be holding a 'bring and buy' sale in the playground, so please donate any unwanted children's books you may have at home to the office so we can sell them after school. Books will be 50p each, with funds going towards replenishing book corners. Thank you!

## Phonics workshops

As you will know, we have changed the programme we use to teach phonics in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at school this year. Miss Barbor and Miss Nagra will be holding two workshops to demonstrate how we are teaching phonics at the school on Wednesday 8 March at 9am and one at 3.30pm. Both workshops are due to last for half an hour. There will be a crèche available for the workshop after school. Please let Donna in the office know if you are able to attend.

## Ofsted report

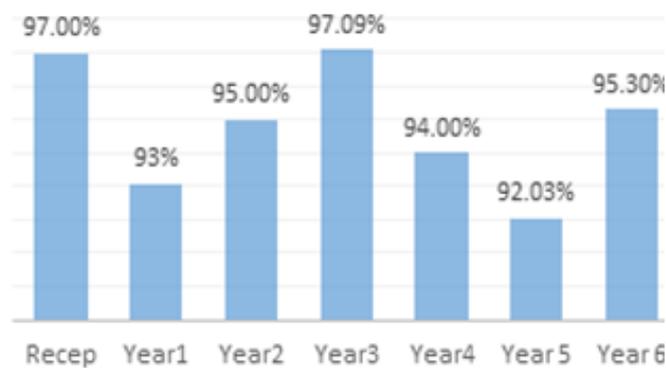
Yesterday, we sent out a letter letting you know that the Ofsted report is now available to read on the school website. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to look at it yet, please do.

**Year 3 Assembly** Congratulations to Year 3 for their marvellous assembly, which they performed on the last day of last half term, about the world's resources and how they aren't shared always shared equally.

## Assembly themes

In this week's assemblies, **Ms Luzmore** spoke to the school about what good lunchtime etiquette may be. This is part of our drive to improve lunch for all. The children and staff are currently working on coming up with shared rules for our lunch hall which we will publish here when complete. **Rev April's** assembly told the parable of the Good Samaritan, but using football teams instead!

## Last week's attendance figures



**Remember – everyday counts!**

### **Football report**

Well done to the Year 6 mixed football team who took part in the Premier Schools' Football Tournament at Market Rd on Tuesday. As always, the children displayed commitment, organisation and a positive team spirit to get them through to the quarter finals, having won two, drawn one and lost one. In the quarter-finals, although putting up a strong fight, the opposition managed to win 4-2. Well done to Kai, Archie, Santiago, Theo, Lola, Hannah, Lia and Charles!

**Mr Standing**

### **Year 5 Islington Reading Roadmap**

On Tuesday, six Year 5 children attended the Islington Reading Road Map Book Award Ceremony at the Emirates Stadium. The Islington Reading Road Map is a new reading scheme that Year 5 have trialled this year to great success. The six children who attended were those who had read the most titles in the scheme, with the leading reader having read 41 out of the 60 available titles in just 3 months! At the ceremony, we heard four published authors talk about their books and inspiration before seeing the award for best children's book (as voted for by the children of Islington) presented to the winning author. After the awards, the children had a chance to have their books signed by the attending authors. We all had a great time and it is fantastic to hear about Year 5 reading so many books and being so enthused about reading!

**Mr Berridge**

### **Unaccompanied children in the playground before school**

It has been noted before half term that there have been a small number of very young unaccompanied children (in Reception and Year 1 and 2) in the playground before school without parents with them. While a member of senior staff is on the gate in the morning daily, they are there to welcome children and parents rather than look after individuals. We understand that a number of parents will need to drop off and go on to other places before the school day starts at 8.55, so please use the breakfast club if you are unable to wait with your child. Breakfast club is £2.00 per day per child from 8am (which includes breakfast) or £1.00 from 8.30 (for supervision only). Places do not need to be booked in advance and it will make for a less rushed start to the day.



**The children who attended the Islington Reading Roadmap at Emirates stadium.**

### **Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers**

Please do bring in any of the Sainsburys Active Kids vouchers you may receive. We will be collecting them until early May when they will be used to purchase equipment for the playground.

### **CAMHS parenting workshops.**

Parenting workshops Wednesdays on the following dates at 2.30pm and finish in time to collect children at the end of the school day: 1 March/ 15 March / 29 March.

### **Monday morning prayer**

Any parent is welcome to join the Monday morning prayer. After children are dropped off and go into class, come to reception and wait for Rev. April, Inge, Sharon and Jo. We then find a place to prayer together. All welcome.

### **Shoelaces**

At a meeting with the teaching assistants this week, they mentioned the large number of children who are asking help to tie their shoelaces from across the year groups! If children are wearing shoes with laces, please teach them how and practice at home, so they are independently able to do this essential life skill when they are at school. There are some great top tips on the internet to help you (even a Professor Shoelace), so that they won't be limited to Velcro shoes for long!





In the holiday I went to see the Lego batman film. **Michael - Reception**

**Year 1** have been looking at arrays this week and making houses (their current unit of inquiry) to represent multiplication sentences. They also took Marlin the monkey on a walk around the school to help them write a recount of his adventures.



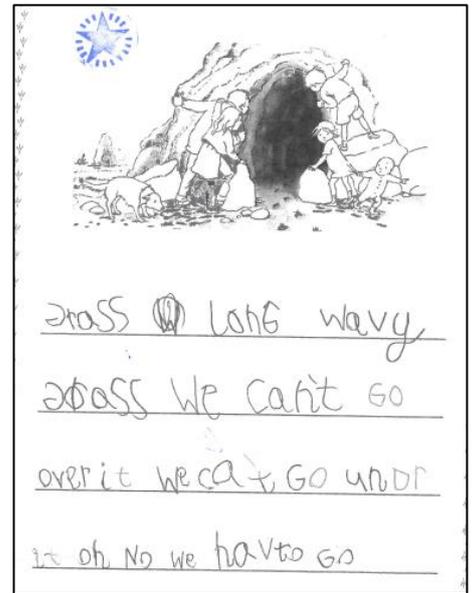
**Marlin the monkey on his adventure with Year 1!**



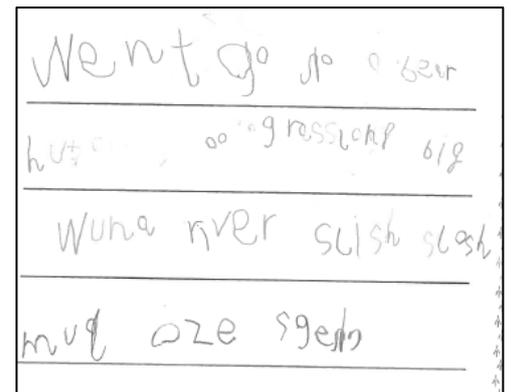
**Hard at work creating arrays for windows in their houses!**



**Reception class** have been working hard this week on their writing. We are very proud of how the children are independently using their phonics to sound out the words and are including capital letters and full stops. This week they've been writing about what they did in half term and the ever popular 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.



Long wavy grass. We can't go over it. We can't go under it Oh no. **Julia - Reception**



A river! Slush slush mud ooze squelch. **Kamron - Reception**