COLPAI NEWSLETTER

CITY OF LONDON PRIMARY ACADEMY ISLINGTON

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A message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a joy it has been spending time in Silk and Sun Classes getting to know our Reception children even better. I joined a group hard at play in the construction area, sticking and stacking stickle bricks to create unique designs. Children were inspired to use their creative and fine motor skills to build imaginative towers, farm scenes and different types of vehicles. Other children opted for the Lego and were hard at work mastering problem solving and spatial skills as they built amazing three dimensional jets and boats. I was impressed with the children's ability to plan ahead and make alterations to their designs to fit the pieces together to create the correct shapes for their model. Ms Macintosh, meanwhile, was hard at work with a group making playdough in readiness for a dough disco session.

This week has been a hive of activity with numerous enrichment trips, aimed to bring our curriculum to life and to further ignite our children's imaginations. Year 6 enjoyed a day of active learning down on Falconhurst Farm, Kent. Pupils had an opportunity to meet farm animals and learn about how food and herbs grow in a market garden. Their visit included eating delicious local produce and exploring the local countryside via a woodland walk. Year 6 pupils also travelled into the City of London to learn about public art and sculptures. They were able to explore and discuss various sculptures, think about their material, the artists, and the inspirations behind them. They also enjoyed their second 'Sculpture in the City' excursion, led by Ms Morgan, which you'll hear all about in a future newsletter. Meanwhile, Year 5 pupils ventured to the Royal Greenwich Observatory where they enjoyed an astronomer-led workshop and a live planetarium show. Year 3 students ventured locally to King Square Gardens where they practised their Geography skills in reading a compass. Pupils were challenged complete practical and challenging activities using a compass, focusing on NESW and the points in between. Their trip ended with a well-deserved cup of hot chocolate! Year 1, meanwhile, took a trip to the Postal Museum where they enjoyed the 'Mail Rail Ride' through hidden tunnels, discovering a unique piece of industrial history. They explored the exhibitions filled with fascinating artefacts and asked many interesting questions. Year 4 and Year 5 pupils engaged enthusiastically in a Dove Day 'Amazing Me' workshop, where they explored the theme of positive body-image and the impact of social media. Everyone has had a good boost to their confidence and esteem thinking about their special strengths and attributes.

My sincere thanks to Ms Robey for organising such an epic week and to all staff for planning these trips and experiences so meticulously and carefully.

I think everyone deserves a weekend of rest.

With warmest wishes,

Ms Clapham
Head Teacher

A message from the Chair of Governors

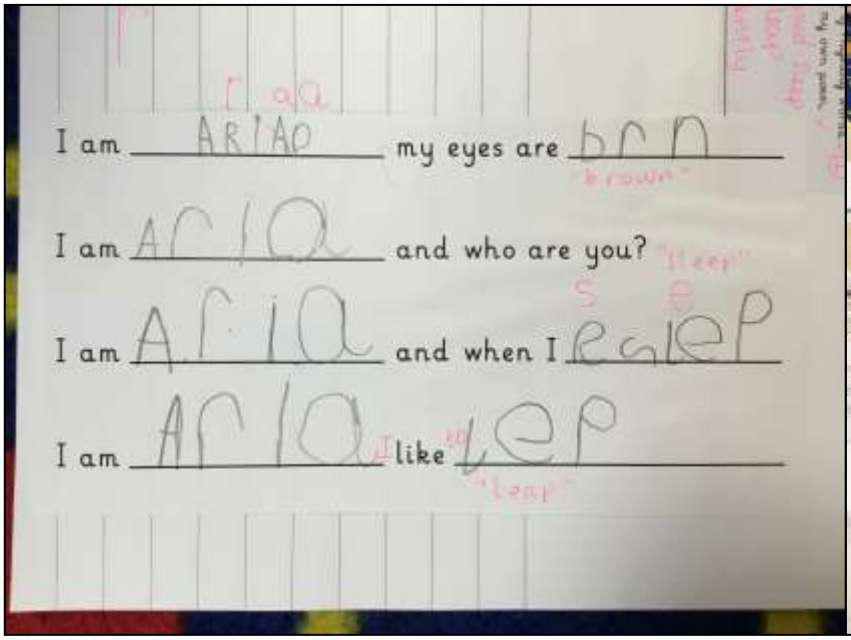
We are all sending encouragement and support to Year Six and their parents who are navigating their way through Open Days, interviews and assessments for secondary schools. The children are so positive and cheerful and we wish them and their families well. Their fabulous trip to Falconhurst certainly helped them to decompress and it sounds as though they had a wonderful time in the country air.

Wishing them, and you all, a happy, fun weekend.

Mary Robey
Chair of Governors

RECEPTION

This week, Reception has been immersed in the world of poetry! We've focused on Gertrude Stein's poem 'I Am Rose', practicing its recitation with engaging actions. Inspired by Stein, the children tapped into their creativity to write their own poems in a similar style. It's been a delightful exploration of language and self-expression.

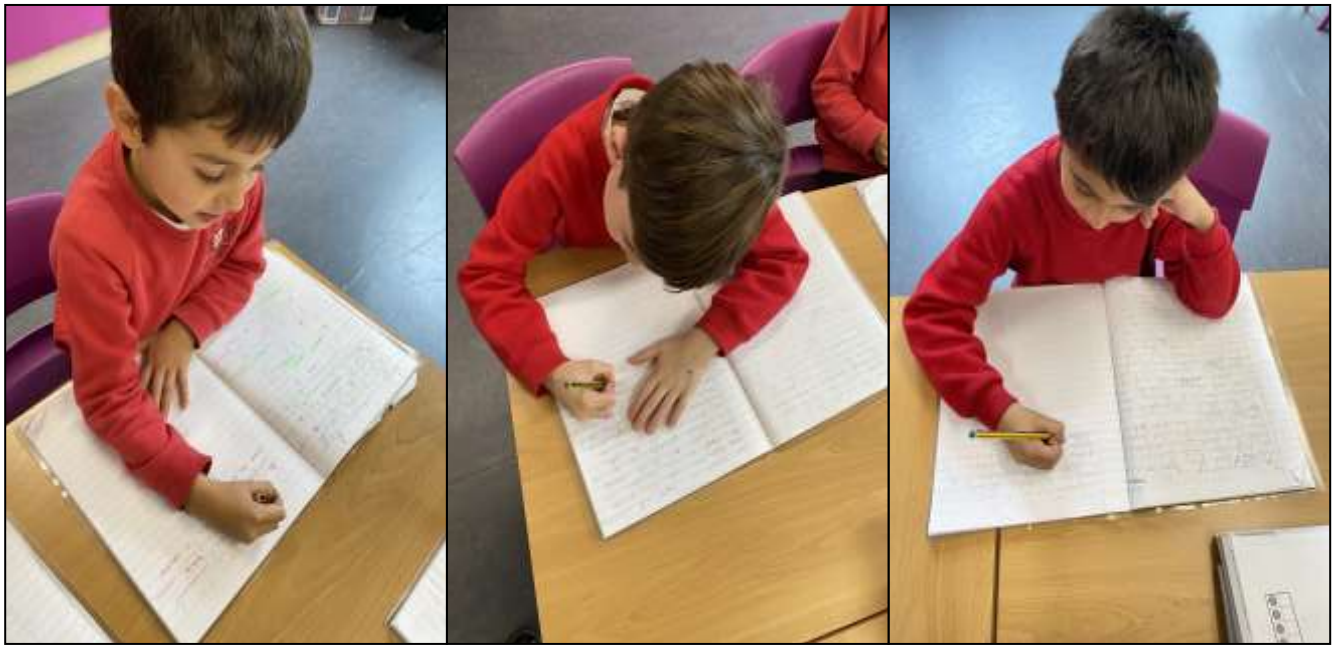


YEAR ONE

This week, Regent and Rose Class enjoyed their first school trip in Year One, a visit to the Postal Museum! The children's behaviour was exceptional on their walk to the museum. They then stayed calm, cool and collected as they rode the spooky mail rail, which is now over a century old! The children engaged and interacted with an exhibition of postal equipment from the past; it was interesting to compare how this system has changed over time. They also took part in a Maths workshop, sorting 3D shapes and numbers and they even had the opportunity to get into character in the role play area. What a week, Year One!

YEAR TWO

This week, Year Two have been writing their own stories inspired by 'The Tadpole's Promise'. I have been so impressed by their developing skills, and their use of story maps and Talk for Writing strategies to support them. The children have produced some stunning writing, including adjectives, similes and alliteration! I have had so much fun reading their different endings, which showcased the children's exciting imaginations.



YEAR THREE

This week, Year Three have particularly enjoyed their music lesson with Ms Brown, our Music specialist! They have been working collaboratively with their partners and as a class to come up with a rap all about Year Three. The children came up with rhyming couplets and practised singing their lines to a beat. Their rap will be a culmination of their music learning this half term, which has included: finding the beat; how rap is created; understanding musical terminology; and listening to a range of rap music. Well done, Year Three… your raps are coming along beautifully!

YEAR FOUR

This week, Fleet Class began planning for an extended piece of writing. They began by getting into the mindset of Beaver from 'The Great Paper Caper'. Then, they arranged Beaver's day in chronological order and organised the events into sensible paragraphs. Next, the children used their knowledge to make notes about what happened to Beaver at each stage, ensuring they were writing in first person. I was really impressed to see many children including all the different ways we can punctuate direct speech; speaker last, speaker first and speaker sandwich. Fleet Class were so mature during their independent work and focused hard to make their plans as detailed as possible. Way to go, Fleet Class!

YEAR SIX

Year Six had an absolutely brilliant time on their school trip to Falconhurst Farm! The weather was just right as we ventured into the enchanting woodland for a lovely walk. The children were in awe of the stunning surroundings and wildlife we encountered. Once we arrived at the farm, the excitement was palpable! The students spent time observing the adorable goats and other animals, which brought plenty of smiles and laughter. They even had the chance to feed the pigs, who were more than eager for a tasty treat! One of the highlights of the day was the blind taste test featuring some delicious locally grown, seasonal produce. To top it all off, the children harvested fresh vegetables from the farm. Overall, it was a fantastic day filled with learning and fun!

Look out for news from Year Five in next week's newsletter!

EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS!

Silk Reception	Johan	For making such great progress in listening to teachers and following school routines.
	Amanuel	For settling into our class so smoothly and successfully after a later start date.
Sun Reception	Augustin	For independently crafting his own poem and effectively using his phonics skills to spell unfamiliar words.
	Maya-May	For her exceptional creativity and enthusiasm during our retelling of a poem, bringing the words to life with her expressive performance.
Rose Year One	Fred D	Fred has had an impressive week, making a focused effort and being really productive in class tasks and discussions. His positive attitude has been evident, especially on our class visit to the Postal Museum, where he showed maturity and made sure to stay safe throughout the trip. Well done Fred!
	Darcy	Darcy has had an outstanding week, showing great improvement in both her class productivity and behaviour. She stayed focused, completed all her work on time, and consistently met classroom expectations. Her effort and positive attitude really shone. Excellent work, Darcy!
Regent Year One	Gabrielle	Gabrielle continuously impresses me with her excellent behaviour inside and outside of the classroom, as well as her engagement and focus in lessons. Gabrielle has shone in our Literacy lessons, using her knowledge of phonics to spell, and using capital letters and full stops in her descriptive sentences.
	Nico	Nico is a constant source of enthusiasm and excitement. His positive attitude towards his learning impresses on a daily basis! Nico has shown a real passion for our Science lessons, in which he is eager to contribute his ideas when categorising a range of unusual animals. Keep it up, Nico!
Drapers Year Two	Betsy	Betsy is my exceptional learner this week for her wonderful writing in Literacy! She has been sharing fantastic ideas in class, independently writing them down and powering up her work to make it even better. Super job, Betsy!
	Charlie	Charlie is our Super Scientist this week! He science he shared his expert knowledge on life cycles. He was able to scientifically explain the similarities and differences between the life cycle of a human and chick with so much detail that he blew me away! Well done, Charlie!
Dukes Year Two	Eiliya	Eiliya continues to be an absolute superstar! His dedication to learning and his determination are outstanding. Eiliya has a fantastic growth mind set and always achieves what he sets out to do. Eiliya is a model of excellence to his peers, consistently following instructions and promoting the COLPAI way.
	Zoe	Zoe has blown me away this week with his independent work and 'can do' attitude. Zoe is trying extra hard to complete tasks with less support and is doing an amazing job. I am also very impressed with Zoe's contribution to class discussions this week. Keep it up, Zoe!

Monument Year Three	Mohamed	This week, Mohamed has been a great help in class. He is always ready to hold a door for someone or offer to help not just adults, but other children too. It has been lovely to see him being so caring and thoughtful, all while maintaining a good sense of humour. Keep it up, Mohamed!
	Nina	Nina has been bringing her A game to all her lessons this week. She has been listening attentively and joining in class discussions, meaning she is getting the most out of her lessons. She is also making the most of the support available and asking for help when she needs it, then taking on board feedback.
Mansion Year Three	Harrison	Harrison is a kind and supportive friend who always encourages those around him to strive to achieve their best. His joy for learning is infectious, making him a positive role model to his peers. Well done, Harry.
	Olivia	Olivia has worked exceptionally hard this week when feeding back ideas to her class. Her talk partner skills are flourishing daily as she shares her own ideas and build upon her friends'. This has bolstered her creativity and confidence, ensuring she is an active member of class. Well done, Olivia.
Fleet Year Four	Lottie	Lottie has truly been a Literacy Legend this week. She was incredibly focused during lesson input so she knew exactly what to do during the independent work. Her Beaver plans have been accurate, detailed and creative. Great work, Lottie!
	Josiah	I have been really impressed by Josiah's growth mind set this week. When he first tackled subtracting a 4-digit number from a 4-digit number with exchanging, he found it a little tricky. However, I saw him pick himself back up, take his time and fix up mistakes! His second go was an in incredible success! Keep it up, Josiah!
Farringdon Year Four	Teddy	Teddy has persevered in his subtraction of two 4-digit numbers, always checking for accuracy in his calculations. He is also able to carefully consider his writing when punctuating fronted adverbials, and his pride in his work is evident. Not only this, but Teddy is a passionate and engaged learner.
	Athena	Athena has been taking on new challenges and working towards her personal goals. She was able to collaborate with her working partner and continue to improve her ability to use the column subtraction method. Athena also shared really interesting facts in our Science lesson. Superstar, Athena!
Gresham Year Five	Joseph	Joseph loves to share his deep knowledge and understanding of the world in all lessons, which really benefits his classmates. His focus and questioning on our trip to the Greenwich Observatory were particularly great this week. You're a star!
	Penelope	Penelope always has a wonderful attitude to learning and teamwork, demonstrating focus and aspiration. This week, she was a superstar at the Greenwich Observatory, asking questions and working well with her classmates… she even got to ride on a mini-hovercraft!
Whittington Year Six	Viggo	Viggo has truly impressed me with his long division skills, even when dealing with remainders! What's particularly noteworthy is his eagerness to explore different methods of solving the same problem. It's fantastic to see his enthusiasm for learning and determination shine through.
	Yasmine	This week, we're celebrating Yasmine, who composed a formal letter that truly wowed me as she expertly incorporated modal verbs, such as 'might' and 'should' and combined them with adverbs of possibility, like 'probably' and 'certainly'. Yasmine also utilised semi-colon and bullet-pointed lists.

ATTENDANCE

Silk: 97.04%
Sun: 89.66%
Rose: 92.92%
Regent: 95.19%
Dukes: 96.90%%
Drapers: 98.52%
Mansion: 98.18%
Monument: 99.23%
Fleet: 98.80%
Farringdon: 98.80%
Gresham: 98.62%
Whittington: 92.42%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 96.327%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 14th October: Year 3 and 4 boys' football tournament at Market Road.

Wednesday 16th October: flu vaccinations.

Friday 19th October, 09.00: PTA meeting

Monday 21st October: Year 3 Monument and Mansion 'something special' assembly. Parents and carers of both classes are invited to attend. Year 3 and 4 girls' football tournament at Market Road.

Friday 25th October: last day of half term.

Friday 8th November: individual school photographs being taken. Year 2 school trip to the National Maritime Museum.

Thursday 14th November: Year 1 'Not Now, Cyril!' workshops in King's Square Gardens.

Friday 15th November: Year 5 school trip to the Emirates Stadium.

Monday 25th November: Year 5 'something special' assembly. Parents and carers welcome to attend.