COLPAI NEWSLETTER

CITY OF LONDON PRIMARY ACADEMY ISLINGTON

A message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another wonderful week at COLPAI, filled with exciting learning opportunities both inside and outside of school. This week, it was Silk Class's turn to visit Freightliner's Farm, and what a fantastic experience it was! The children thoroughly enjoyed their farm adventure, delighting in meeting the animals up close and learning how to care for them. Ms. Murphy shared how wonderful it was to witness the children's fascination with the natural world and their confidence in asking questions of the farm staff. This hands-on experience has sparked enthusiastic classroom discussions about animals and their habitats. A big thank you to all the teachers, support staff, and parent volunteers who helped make this trip such a success.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Ms. Crocombe and our dedicated support staff for accompanying our choristers to various venues across London this week for the City Music rehearsals. Their commitment ensures that our talented pupils are well-prepared for the grand concert next Wednesday at the Guildhall. COLPAI pupils have composed their very own song, and I can't wait to see our children shine on this prestigious stage!

This week, we welcomed cricket coach Rishab Mukherjee, who delivered engaging cricket workshops for Fleet and Farringdon Classes. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning new skills and techniques. These sessions not only developed their sporting abilities but also emphasized the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship.

The Scholastic Book Fair has been a tremendous success this week! Ms. Robey, supported by our phenomenal Year 6 pupils, has done an exceptional job organizing and running the fair. We've been delighted to see such enthusiasm for reading among our pupils, with many excited to take home new books. The funds raised will help us purchase additional books for our school library. Special recognition goes to our Year 6 helpers, who demonstrated outstanding leadership and responsibility throughout the week. If you haven't had a chance to visit the book fair yet, fear not—Ms. Robey and her Year 6 team will be back on duty next week.

As ever, I am very much looking forward to World Book Day next Thursday. In the meantime, I wish all our wonderful children and COLPAI families a lovely weekend.

Ms Clapham
Head Teacher

A message from the Deputy Head Teacher

A reminder that we'll be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. This year, COLPAI's dress-up theme is 'Bedtime Stories', and we're inviting children and staff to come to school in their cosiest bedtime attire—think pyjamas, dressing gowns, and even cuddly teddies! Our aim is to keep things simple and fun while reducing any financial or logistical pressure on families—everyone should have something snuggly at home, so there's no need to buy anything new.

Year 6 and I are excited to welcome you to the Scholastic Book Fair, which continues this Monday and Tuesday! Book fairs are a fantastic way to inspire a love of reading while also benefitting our school—every purchase helps us earn free books for our library. Children can use their World Book Day vouchers towards the cost of a book, and there's a special 3-for-2 offer on all books, making it a great opportunity to stock up on new reads!

A huge thank you to our parents and carers for your generous support—your contributions help us continue to provide wonderful learning resources for our children. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ms Robey
Deputy Head Teacher

RECEPTION

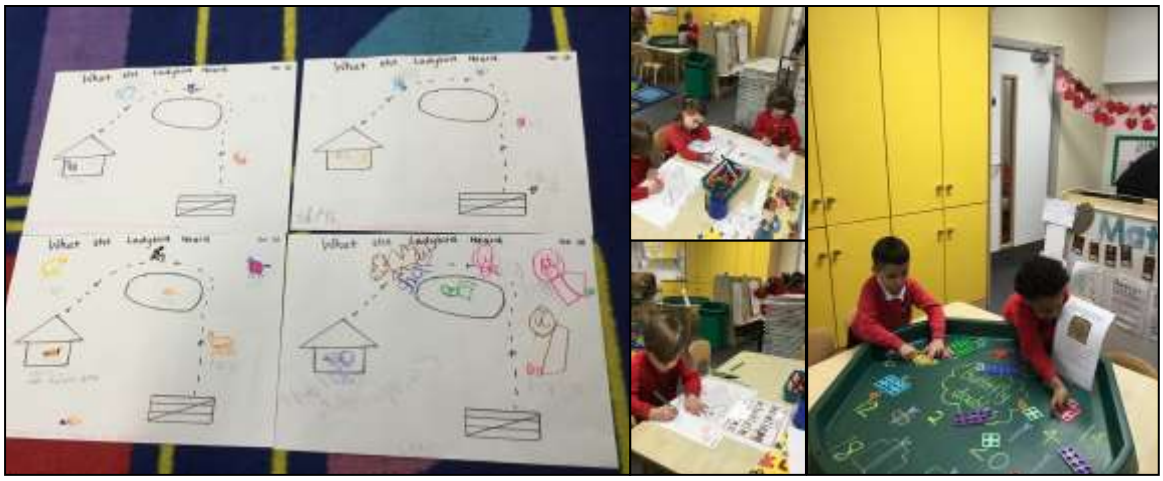
This week, Reception jumped straight back into their learning after half-term with enthusiasm!

In Literacy, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring our focus book, *What the Ladybird Heard*. They created a map of the farm from the story, which helped them practice using prepositions, draw and label farm animals, and discuss their habitats. The children loved engaging with the story and learning about different animals.

This activity ties in perfectly with our theme for this half-term, 'Where Do They Live?', which focuses on habitats and living things.

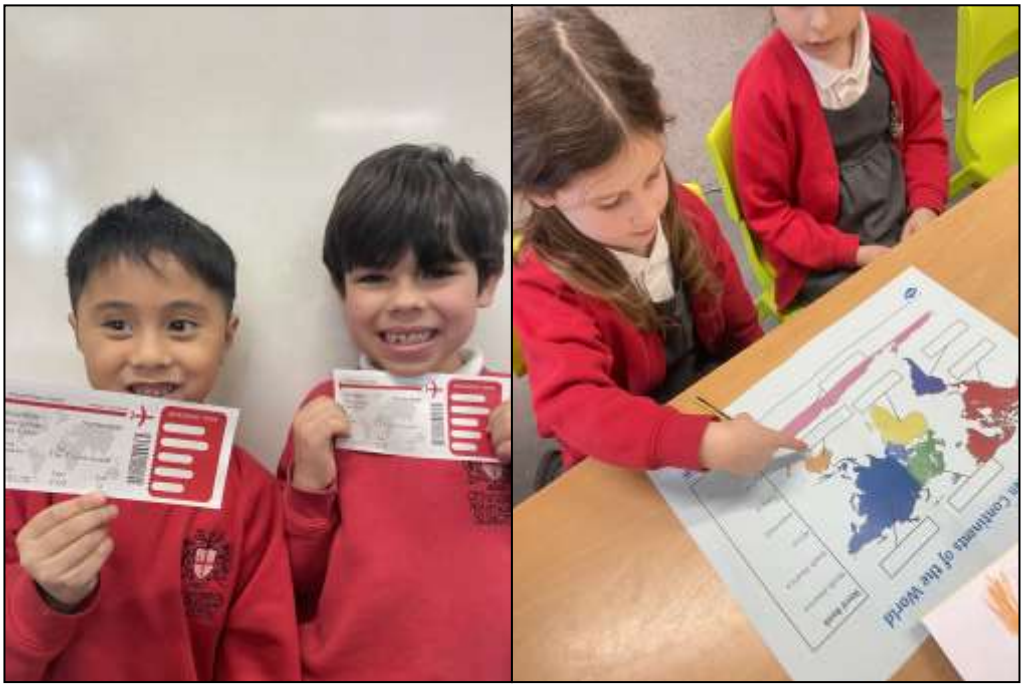
In Maths, the children had a great time exploring doubling, using Numicon to create 'double butterflies.'

Finally, in our Understanding the World lessons, they enjoyed comparing farms from the past to those in the present.



YEAR ONE

This week in Geography, Year One embarked on an exciting round-the-world adventure to explore the seven continents! With our plane tickets in hand, we traveled to each continent, discovering fascinating facts along the way, such as their sizes and the countries within them. Did you know that Africa has the most countries? There are 54 in total! To wrap up our journey, we sang a fun and catchy song about all the continents.



YEAR TWO

In this week's Science lesson, we began by matching various animals to their habitats and naming other organisms suited to those environments.

Next, we watched videos that explored different habitats and the organisms that live there. Our task was to note down the clever adaptations that help these organisms survive in their specific habitats. To wrap up, we played a memory game to recall as many adaptations as possible!

YEAR THREE

This week, Year 3 launched their new writing project: creating a radio advert for a woolly mammoth washing kit!

First, they discussed their prior knowledge of radio adverts. Then, they listened to their teacher's WAGOLL (What A Good One Looks Like) example. The children learned four key advertising techniques: 'first and only', 'miss it, miss out', 'everyone agrees', and 'value for money'.

Next, as a class, they completed an activity matching phrases to these techniques. Finally, they text-marked an example script with highlighters to identify the four different tricks of the trade.

YEAR FOUR

In Science, Year 4 has been exploring conservation, studying how ecosystems change depending on climate and location. They've learned how different environments support various forms of life and why protecting these ecosystems is so important.

In Maths, they have been working on equivalent fractions, practicing how to identify, create, and simplify them.

In Literacy, they've been focusing on writing to entertain, crafting tabloids that use sensationalist and emotive language to hook readers.

Well done, Year 4, on a brilliant start back after half-term!

YEAR FIVE

During our History lesson recently, we explained to Ms. Crocombe that, as historians, we need to use specific sources to gather more information!

We discussed primary and secondary sources, such as photos, artefacts, and historical documents. Then, we became experts on different aspects of Anglo-Saxon life. Each student had five minutes to read about their assigned area of expertise—clothing, work, homes, food, or leisure—and note down key vocabulary essential for the next part of the task.

As experts, we then returned to our group tables to present our findings. To encourage precise vocabulary use, points were awarded to the most articulate expert!

For our exit ticket, the listening experts had to write about one of the topics they had learned from their peers. What excellent speaking and listening skills the children demonstrated!

Look out for news from Year Six in our next newsletter!

EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS!

Silk Reception	Thady	For coming into school and the Silk classroom calmly each morning this term. He follows our morning routine diligently and takes great pride in his whiteboard work. Well done!
	Piper	For showing great enthusiasm during our Literacy task and creating a wonderful map based on our text *What the Ladybird Heard*. She put in her best effort to use Fred Talk when sounding out animal names. Fantastic work, Piper!
Sun Reception	Bertie	For consistently displaying a positive attitude towards learning, showing curiosity, and demonstrating an eager thirst for knowledge.
	Ada	For confidently contributing to whole-class discussions and independently extending her learning during continuous provision.
Rose Year One	Valentin	For his outstanding enthusiasm and curiosity during our exploration of continents! Valentin amazed the class by sharing fascinating facts and insights. We love your passion for learning and your willingness to share your knowledge and ideas. Well done—keep up the fantastic work!
	Owen	For being an exceptional role model in the classroom! Owen consistently demonstrates excellent behaviour, actively listens during lessons, and shows great respect for both teachers and classmates. He is a calm and positive influence, helping everyone stay focused and do their best.
Regent Year One	Lisette	Lisette blew me away this week! During our Maths assessments, she applied a range of methods we have learned throughout the year to efficiently solve each question. Lisette always demonstrates a hardworking attitude, and it is a pleasure to see her flourishing as the year progresses. Well done, Lisette!
	Nico	Nico has impressed many teachers at school this week with his Literacy skills. He has challenged himself to use a wide range of vocabulary to effectively describe Beegu's emotions. Keep up the excellent work, Nico!
Drapers Year Two	Diana	Diana and Orlando are our Exceptional Learners of the Week! Both have joined our class this week and have already become valued members of Drapers Class. Not only are they funny, friendly, caring, and kind additions to our classroom community, but they have also eagerly embraced their learning and participated enthusiastically in all activities. Thank you, Diana and Orlando!
	Orlando	
Dukes Year Two	Oscar	Oscar has blown me away this week! He has returned after half-term with incredible maturity and a fantastic attitude towards learning. His focus has been exceptional, and his listening and lining up have been consistently amazing! Great first week back, Oscar—keep it up!
	Dolcie	Dolcie's contribution to last term's History topic was absolutely incredible. It was wonderful to see her hand up so often! She then went on to create an amazing model of a Tudor house, using different materials to add perfect detail. You are a superstar, Dolcie—well done!

Monument Year Three	Inigo	This week, we began learning about the Romans, and Inigo truly impressed me. He listened carefully and asked insightful, relevant questions about how the Roman Empire expanded. He then worked beautifully with his partner to find definitions of key words and sort them into 'invaders' or 'settlers'.
	Nina	Nina has been her usual wonderfully helpful self this week—she is such a kind and thoughtful member of the class. She has been making sure everyone has enjoyable playtimes by inviting others to join in and even creating new games so no one is left out.
Mansion Year Three	Arthur	Arthur has worked consistently hard this year to develop his independent learning skills, using his prior knowledge to tackle more complex topics with confidence. He actively shares and listens to his talk partner, drawing upon their ideas to support his own. Keep going, Arthur—we are very proud of you!
	Tanzeela	Tanzeela consistently shares unique and creative ideas during Literacy lessons. This creativity shone through in her radio advert this week, where she used modelled examples to design an imaginative woolly mammoth washing kit, carefully considering how to cater to a woolly mammoth's needs.
Fleet Year Four	Daniel	This week, Daniel has been an absolute marvel in Maths! With several assessments to tackle, he has approached each Maths paper with confidence and care. It has been incredible to see him meticulously show his working in a neat and purposeful way, ensuring he avoids any small mistakes. Keep it up.
	Josiah	Josiah's reading skills have been truly outstanding this week. I have been absolutely blown away by his ability to read and fully digest a text, demonstrating a deep understanding. No matter the question type, Josiah has answered with confidence, using incredible inference skills. Way to go, Josiah!
Farringdon Year Four	Kitty	Kitty has been an excellent member of Year 4 this week, working hard in Maths to achieve her personal best in fractions. She demonstrated a strong understanding of how multiplying a fraction affects both the denominator and the numerator. Kitty's dedication and effort were fantastic.
	Cayden	Cayden worked exceptionally hard during his fractions lessons, actively participating and demonstrating great collaboration by supporting his peers when they were struggling. He has also shown what a considerate and respectful member of the class he is, offering support to his friends.
Gresham Year Five	Penelope	Beyond the classroom, Penelope fully immerses herself in all aspects of school life at COLPAI—whether it's singing in the choir, competing in Maths challenges, or representing the school in swimming galas. Her positivity and commitment make her a wonderful role model to others.
	Ela	A big well done to Ela for her fantastic effort and focus since the holiday. She has settled back in brilliantly, working hard in all areas of learning. It's always a joy to hear about the books she's been reading—especially her love for Harry Potter! Ela is a valued member of the COLPAI family.
Whittington Year Six	Norah	Norah blew me away with her incredible history writing this week! Her rant from the perspectives of an Athenian and a Spartan woman was nothing short of brilliant. She expertly used hyperbole to emphasize their differing viewpoints, bringing her historical knowledge to life in such an engaging and
	Trent	rent has impressed us with his outstanding maths work this week! While exploring how to calculate the volume of different cuboids, he confidently recalled the correct formula and aced every challenge—even the tricky missing length questions! Well done, Trent!

ATTENDANCE

Silk: 99.63%
Sun: 97.86%
Rose: 91.67%
Regent: 89.62%
Dukes: 94.14%
Drapers: 97.90%
Mansion: 98.33%
Monument: 99.22%
Fleet: 93.60%
Farringdon: 100%!
Gresham: 96.55%
Whittington: 98.31%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 95.60%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 3rd March: Year 4 trip to the RAF Museum.
Tuesday 4th March: Year 4's second cricket session.
Wednesday 5th March: Year 5 attending author talk at City of London School.
Wednesday 5th March, 17.00-19.00: City Schools Concert at the Guildhall.
Thursday 6th March: World Book Day.
Monday 10th March: Year 5 trip to the L'Oreal Young Scientists' Institute.
Tuesday 11th March: Year 4's third cricket session.
Thursday 13th March: Year 2 Football Festival
Tuesday 18th March: Year 4's fourth cricket session.
Wednesday 19th March: Year 5/6 Netball Festival.
Friday 21st March: Group of children from Years 2-6 attending Multisport Festival.
Tuesday 25th March: Year 4's fifth cricket session.
Wednesday 26th March: Year 5 trip to Falconhurst Farm.
Friday 28th March: Years 4-6 orienteering trip.
Monday 31st March: Year 4 ESB examinations.
Monday 31st March, 08.40: Year 1 'Something Special' assembly. Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Tuesday 1st April: Year 2 trips to Camley Street Natural Park.
Thursday 3rd April: Year 4 ESB examinations.
Friday 4th April, 13.30: End of term.
Tuesday 22nd April: INSET day.