COLPAI NEWSLETTER

CITY OF LONDON PRIMARY ACADEMY ISLINGTON

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting start to the final half-term of this academic year, with more remarkable achievements and memorable experiences taking place across all year groups.

This week, our Year 3 pupils participated in the Quadkids athletics event as part of the LBI inter-schools competitive games programme. Their enthusiasm and sportsmanship beautifully reflected our school values. My sincere thanks go to Mr Spencer and Ms Brashko for accompanying the children on this energetic trip.

Our Year 4 pupils have continued to excel, particularly those attending weekly swimming classes at the City of London School for Girls (CLSG). I'm incredibly proud to share that the staff at CLSG praised our students as the best-behaved children attending their pool. This is a testament to the values and high standards of behaviour we promote at COLPAI.

Additionally, the Year 4 team has worked tirelessly to complete the multiplication tables check this week. The children have shown tremendous determination to secure strong results once again this year. Parents — you too deserve a huge thank you for supporting your children at home, encouraging them to practise their times tables and helping them achieve fluency and automaticity. This strong foundation is essential for future mathematical learning and problem-solving. Validated results will be shared with parents in due course. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Year 4 team for their unwavering commitment, dedication, and hard work throughout the year. Their support of our pupils' learning journey has been exceptional.

Despite the torrential rain on Thursday, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an enriching trip to Forest School, expertly supported by Ms Tozer and Mr Perez. These outdoor learning experiences are invaluable in developing our pupils' confidence, resilience, and connection with nature.

Once again, Ms Robey — supported by senior and middle leaders — has organised a fantastic book fair, raising vital funds for the school while further nurturing our pupils' lifelong love of reading for pleasure. My sincere thanks to parents for your support in making the book fair a huge success.

I would also like to acknowledge the important work of Ms Robey and Ms Tozer as local authority moderators of Year 6 writing standards. Their expertise in supporting the moderation of pupils' writing across LBI schools is invaluable and continues to benefit not only our school but the wider educational community.

Finally, I want to highlight the wonderful work of Ms Singleton and Ms Wright, who have been conducting home visits for our incoming Reception pupils for 2025/26. These visits are an essential part of warmly welcoming our newest families to the COLPAI community and ensuring a smooth transition for our youngest learners.

Thank you to all our dedicated staff, supportive families, and incredible pupils who make COLPAI such a special place to learn and grow.

Ms Kim Clapham
Head Teacher

A message from Ms Robey

Last week, we were delighted to host our final Scholastic Book Fair of the academic year. It was a fantastic event, and I'd like to extend heartfelt thanks to Mr Crump, Ms Crocombe, and Ms Kirby for kindly volunteering their time to help manage the fair. Special thanks also go to our wonderful Year 6 volunteers, who enthusiastically supported the running of the fair—particularly enjoying the responsibility of managing the card reader, which made them feel very official indeed! We're also very grateful to our office and premises teams, who helped ensure everything ran smoothly behind the scenes.

Every book purchased through a school-run book fair earns us reward points, which we can then use to buy more books for our school. Thanks to your incredible generosity, both towards your children and the school, we've been able to significantly expand our core text libraries. As you'll see in the photo below, we now have class sets of titles ranging from 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' for Reception to 'The Last Wild' for Year 6. Our growing collection of poetry anthologies will be an invaluable resource for Key Stage Two children preparing for English Speaking Board (ESB) examinations next year and beyond. Ms Morgan's library of art and design-related fiction and non-fiction has also seen a wonderful expansion. And, by popular request from the children themselves, we've invested in a complete set of Tom Gates books.

At this most recent fair, total sales reached an impressive £935.79, earning the school a further £467.90 to spend on books. Rest assured, we'll be using it wisely!

A message from Mr Spencer

On Wednesday 4th June, ten students from across Year 3 took part in this year's Islington Quadkids Athletics Tournament at Finsbury Park Athletics Track. The tournament featured four different athletic events: the 50m sprint, 400m race, howler throw, and standing long jump.

COLPAI kicked off the afternoon with the 400m race — a full lap of the track — where students had to strategically manage their stamina and pacing to complete the event successfully. Next came the howler throw, challenging pupils to launch the ball-like javelin as far as possible through the air.

The eagerly anticipated 50m sprint followed, requiring athletes to remain composed at the starting line before giving their all at the sound of the whistle and racing to the finish. Finally, the team tackled the standing long jump, which demanded explosive strength and coordination to leap forward from a standing position and land cleanly on two feet in the sandpit.

Well done to all of our fantastic athletes who took part in this event!

RECEPTION

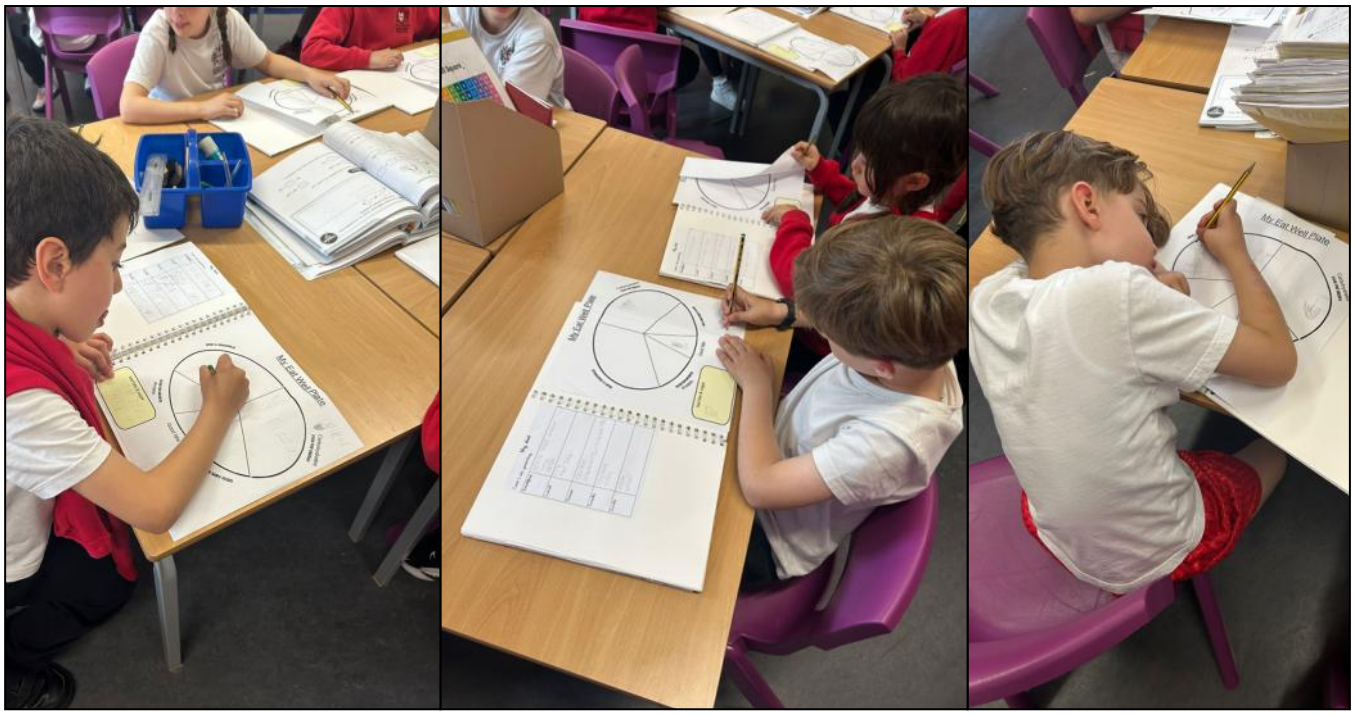
This week in Reception, we explored 'The Disgusting Sandwich'! The children enthusiastically retold the story orally and sequenced the events using pictures. Some even added their own captions to bring the narrative to life. In Art, the children used a variety of mixed media to create their own wonderfully disgusting sandwiches, showcasing both their creativity and storytelling skills.

YEAR ONE

This week, our Year 1 students proudly showcased their creativity at the vibrant COLPAI art exhibition. Throughout the year, the children have worked hard to explore colour, texture, and a variety of materials, producing a stunning collection of artwork inspired by nature, animals, and famous artists. Families were invited to view the gallery-style display, and it was heart-warming to see the pride on the children's faces as they shared their masterpieces. A huge well done to all our talented young artists, and a heartfelt thank you to Ms Morgan for being such an inspiring and dedicated teacher!

YEAR TWO

This week in Food Technology, the children explored what makes up a healthy diet. They discussed their own eating habits, identified the food groups their meals belong to, and considered how they could make healthier choices. Following the discussion, the children designed their own 'My Eat Well Plate', applying their knowledge to create a balanced and nutritious meal plan.

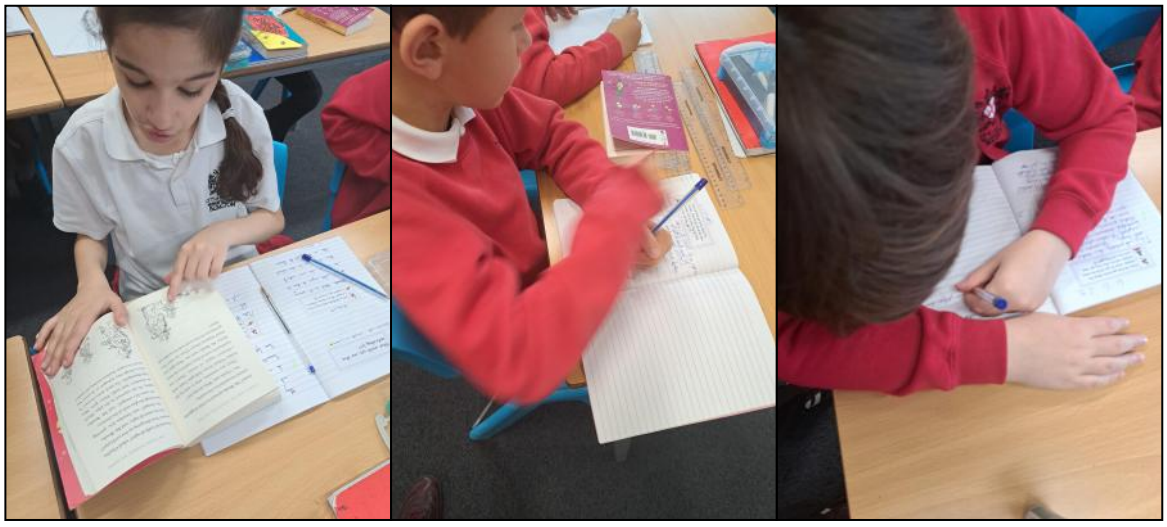


YEAR THREE

In Literacy this week, Year 3 used the Chromebooks to carefully research daily life in Roman times. They took neat and thoughtful notes to support their writing, which compared the daily life of a Roman child to their own. Through this activity, they reflected on the many changes that have taken place since Roman times. The children learned how to structure their writing into clear paragraphs and use conjunctions to compare two different time periods. Impressively, they also used commas correctly to separate their clauses. Fantastic work, Year 3 — well done!

YEAR FOUR

Year 4 have been busy planning and writing their own exciting narratives, using a range of writing techniques such as personification, expanded noun phrases, and adverbs for effect to add detail and drama to their paragraphs. In Reading, they are nearing the end of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', which has sparked lively discussions and inspired plenty of imaginative ideas. In Maths, the focus has been on telling the time, with pupils learning to confidently convert between analogue and digital formats. Their Geography lessons have continued to explore where our food comes from, looking at how it is grown, produced, and transported around the world. In Science, the children are building their knowledge of electricity by experimenting with simple circuits and learning how they power everyday objects.



YEAR SIX

This week, our class embarked on an exciting adventure at Forest School! The children thoroughly enjoyed pond dipping, where they discovered a variety of fascinating creatures. Using identification keys, they eagerly identified frogs, newts, and a host of tiny invertebrates. In addition to pond dipping, the students showcased their creativity by constructing dens using natural materials. It was wonderful to see their imaginative structures come to life through teamwork and collaboration. The day was filled with laughter, curiosity, and hands-on learning — leaving everyone excited for our next outdoor exploration!

EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS!

Silk Reception	Sasha	For showing great enthusiasm during our Phonics lessons and trying her hardest to Fred Talk words with tricky special friends. Keep it up, Sasha!
	Mark	For settling into COLPAI so well by being a kind classmate and joining in with all of our activities. Well done, Mark!
Sun Reception	Aria	For showing consistently exceptional behaviour throughout the day and being a fantastic role model.
	Alvaro	For contributing more during our whole class learning with thoughtful and interesting ideas.
Rose Year One	Tony	For showing progress in phonics and for taking great steps towards becoming a more independent learner. Your determination and growing confidence are something to be proud of – keep it up!
	Arya	For working hard to understand and sort natural and human features of the beach. Your focus, effort, and growing curiosity about the world around you have really shone through. Well done!
Regent Year One	Eliott	Eliott has impressed me this week with his knowledge of 'time' in our Maths lessons. He can confidently use the vocabulary of 'before' and 'after', and has shown a secure understanding of the days of the week. Well done, Eliott!
	Nova	Nova has come into school with a smile every day this week, which has been lovely to see. She worked hard in our Science lesson, drawing a detailed diagram of an eye and successfully describing how it is protected. Excellent work, Nova!
Drapers Year Two	Diana	Diana is my PE superstar this week! She was fantastic in our lesson, showing excellent teamwork and cooperation with her partner. She practised throwing, rolling, and jumping with focus, enthusiasm, and determination. Well done, Diana!
	Lara	Lara has made a fantastic start in her first week at COLPAI, showing great enthusiasm and participation in every subject, particularly Maths. Her kindness, sense of fun, and openness have already made her a friend to many. Welcome to Drapers Class – we're so lucky to have you!
Dukes Year Two	Oscar	Oscar showed so much enthusiasm for our new Science topic, Plants. He shared interesting facts about the differences between bulbs and seeds and how they grow. Oscar also told us about his own sunflower-growing journey at home. I'm looking forward to your input at our upcoming workshop.
	Aren	Aren continues to impress me daily with his sheer determination and effort. He puts 100% into every subject and is always on task. Aren, your growth mindset is a fantastic example to your classmates. Well done!

Monument Year Three	Yasmine	Yasmine has been persevering like a champion this week! She's really tried her best to listen and join in with every lesson, encouraging others to do the same. She shared a wonderful summary of 'Jack and the Beanstalk', reading aloud with great expression and volume. Well done, Yasmine!
	Lara	Lara has made wonderful progress in Maths this week. Telling the time can be tricky, but she has worked hard and even helped others use their mini clocks. She's been actively contributing to class discussions too. Thank you, Lara!
Mansion Year Three	Maria	Maria has recently joined our COLPAI community and flourished in her first few weeks here. She has shared beautiful stories with her peers, even bringing in books she's written at home. Her creativity has shone in Literacy this week while researching what it was like to grow up in Roman times.
	Ema	Ema has excelled this week in learning to tell the time. She has taken great pride in this achievement, using her new skills throughout the day and even challenging herself beyond five-minute intervals. Ema always demonstrates how hard work pays off. Well done, Ema!
Fleet Year Four	Anastasia	Anastasia has been a true Maths Marvel this week! Time is such a tricky concept, but her perseverance has been second to none. She worked hard to understand how to convert 12-hour to 24-hour time and proudly showed off her knowledge. Well done, Anastasia!
	Daniel	Daniel's Literacy skills have really shone this week. Not only did he excel in his Grammar and Punctuation NFER test, but his attention to detail in class writing has stood out. He showcased his Year 4 skills beautifully, using expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, and accurately punctuated speech. Way to go, Daniel!
Farringdon Year Four	Jyllian	Jyllian has been a role model in every lesson, showing dedication, focus, and capability throughout the day. She is a brilliant partner and friend, always taking time to edit her work and seek feedback. Most importantly, she brings joy to our classroom—it's a pleasure to see her every day!
	Malick	Malick has tried so hard this week, creating a narrative full of fronted adverbials, similes, and metaphors to evoke feeling in the reader. He also impressed in swimming, showing confidence, adaptability, and the desire to challenge himself. Well done, Malic
Gresham Year Five	Gabriel	Gabriel has shown excellent focus in lessons and real commitment to learning. Around school, he has made noticeable improvements in behaviour and is becoming a positive, supportive role model. His mature attitude and growing sense of responsibility are a credit to him. Well done, Gabriel!
	Elias	Elias has shown outstanding focus and determination during his NFER tests. His setting description writing was full of creativity and detail. Around school, Elias consistently shows respect, maturity, and a purposeful approach to learning. He is a fantastic role model – well done, Elias!
Whittington Year Six	Maya	Maya wowed me with her outstanding formal writing. She used bullet points, semi-colon lists, the subjunctive mood, and the passive voice with confidence. Excellent work, Maya!
	Sophia	Sophia amazed me in Science this week, exploring how inheritance and environmental factors influence traits. She clearly explained how children can resemble their parents while still being unique. Great work, Sophia!

ATTENDANCE

Silk: 91.85%
Sun: 98.57%
Rose: 92.38%
Regent: 90.80%
Dukes: 93.75%
Drapers: 100%!
Mansion: 98.80%
Monument: 87.97%
Fleet: 96.00%
Farringdon: 98.80%
Gresham: 96.90%
Whittington: 93.00%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 94.85%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wednesday 18th June: Year 2 trip to King Henry's Walk Gardens; Silk Class trip to Camley Street Natural Park; Year 4 swimming.

Tuesday 24th June: Year 6 STEAM trip to the RAF Museum.

Wednesday 25th June: Year 4 swimming.

Thursday 26th June: Year 6 'Pizza Plot' trip to King Henry's Walk Gardens.

Friday 27th June: Group of pupils attending the Year 3/4 Cricket Festival.

Monday 30th June: 08.40–Year 4 'something special' assembly (parents and carers welcome); Year 4 trip to Beckenham Place Park for Rivers fieldwork.

Tuesday 1st July: Year 6 seaside trip.

Wednesday 2nd July: Year 4 swimming.

Thursday 3rd July: CLS/CLSG coffee morning for Year 5 parents; Year 6 Forest School.

Monday 7th July: 08.40–Reception 'something special' assembly (parents and carers welcome).