

04/12/2020

Messages from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

This week I have visited all of the classes and am delighted by the progress that the children are making. It is a real testament to all of them and the dedicated staff that, despite the pandemic, at school it is business as usual in all classrooms.

Today we received some interesting information about statutory testing from the Department for Education (DFE). Year 6 will take the SATS as normal in May 2021 but without the spelling, grammar and punctuation test. Year 2 will be assessed using teacher assessment and moderators from the borough will visit to check these in the summer of 2021. Year 1 phonics will happen as usual in June 2021 and year 2 will do a phonics test next week. There are some small but significant changes here and it is good that the DFE has recognised the impact of the lockdown on education, whilst still ensuring that we have a robust testing system that ensures the highest standards for all of our pupils.

As you will know, we cannot do the usual Christmas celebrations with parents in school, but there is still plenty going on to help the children get into the festive spirit. Decorations have been made, snowy penguins made from clay adorn the reception area and we have a lovely Christmas tree at the entrance. Other important dates for the children are:

Friday 11th December- Christmas jumper day. Wear your best festive jumper and donate a £1 to Save the Children.

Tuesday 15th December- Christmas lunch at Duncombe, the hall will be decorated and our fantastic catering staff will serve a delicious Christmas lunch.

As well as Christmas approaching, next week on December 10th begins the important Jewish festival of Hanukkah 'the festival of light'. To all of the Jewish families at the school, I know that everyone wishes you a Happy Hanukah!

Wishing you a safe and happy weekend,

Helen

Extended Day and Club Fee's

Please be reminded that fees for afterschool club, breakfast club and enrichment activities must be paid for in advance. All outstanding fees must be cleared by Monday 7th December 2020 in order for children to continue participating.

School Attendance:

Our goal is 96.5%

Currently at: 94.6%

**Nelson
Mandela
97.9%**

**Marie
Curie
96.9%**

**Winston
Churchill
86.1%**

**Florence
Nightingale
95.2%**

**Emmeline
Pankhurst
90.5%**

**Francis
Drake
94.9%**

**Martin Luther
King
98.8%**

**Ernest
Shackleton
95.5%**

**Charlotte
Bronte
96.3%**

**Tony
Ross
97.4%**

**William
Shakespeare
97.7%**

**Judith
Kerr
92.9%**

**Michael
Faraday
98.5%**

**Julia
Donaldson
98.5%**

**Isaac Newton
97.7%**

**Eric Carle
86.5%**



Celebration Awards



Julia Donaldson 2 year olds: Olivia

Who is so keen in exploring Little Nursery, and will give anything a go, especially her love of books and is now starting to retell some of her favourite stories. Keep it up!!!

Eric Carle Nursery: Zara

For working so hard during our Phonics Phase 1 sessions. Well done to you, my little star! Keep it up!

Tony Ross: Jacob

Jacob has had a great attitude towards his learning recently, pushing himself in all areas. He is also being a great friend, looking after others when they need it.

Judith Kerr Reception: Amelia

Amelia has been trying so hard recently and is making amazing progress. She really wants to start reading and has been making an extra effort to blend her sounds.
Keep up the amazing work Amelia.

Ernest Shackleton Year 1: Aliiza

Aliiza has been trying so hard in her writing, maths and reading. She has become so independent and I am very proud of her. Keep up the amazing work Aliiza, you are a superstar!

Francis Drake Year 1: Mohamed

Mohamed has been excelling in his Maths, he is a superstar in class and is always very helpful to teachers and his friends. Well done Mohammed!

Martin Luther King Year 5: Jazmin

Jasmin is an excellent role model in year 5. She is always ready, respectful and safe. Jazmin is a helpful member of the class who always works to the best of her ability. Well done Jazmin!

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Hashim

Hashim has developed a really good attitude towards learning since coming back from half-term. He has put loads of effort into his class work and contributes to class discussion regularly, showing he is engaging with class materials. He has performed particularly well in Grammar, Punctuation and Spellings. His behaviour on the playground has also improved massively since the start of term; well done Hashim, keep up the hard work!

Nelson Mandela Year 6: Heba

For aspiring to do her best in all areas of her learning. She does Doodle Maths regularly as well as all her homework, demonstrating how responsible she is as a student. Her behaviour is also impeccable and she sets an example to the rest of the pupils at school.

Winston Churchill Year 6: Cindy

for all her effort And great improvement in maths. Well done and keep working hard!

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Maalik

For super sitting, putting in lots of effort in reading and maths and trying his best! Well done Maalik you star!

Marie Curie Year 2: Kitty

Kitty has just joined the Duncombe family and she has already settled in wonderfully. She works extremely hard in the classroom and she has been doing fantastic work at home this week. Well done Kitty!

Isaac Newton Year 3: Mahdi

For excellent writing this week. Mahdi wrote a fantastic plan for his story. He has been trying really hard to follow the instructions given by his teachers. Well done Mahdi. Keep up the good work.

Michael Faraday Year 3: Yunis

Yunis has been trying very hard in Maths and English and Tarcan and Jamie have been so impressed with his work this week. Yunis brightens up the school and is a real ray of sunshine! Well done Yunis.

Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Soumeya

For writing an original and creative story in the first person, well done!

William Shakespeare Year 4: Christopher

For having such a fantastic attitude to his learning and for producing some excellent independent writing.

Fantastic Work

Naeem, Yusuf and Mia have done some lovely arts and crafts while working from home. Well done for using google classroom.

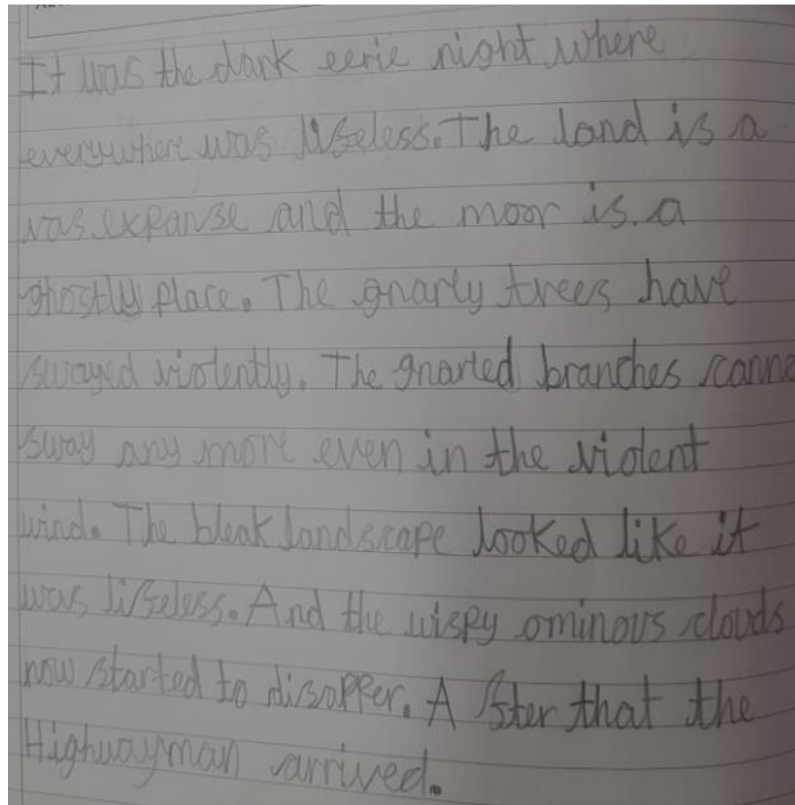


By Victoria in MLK

In the sunset, as the soft clouds cover the sky, The sky was tremendously beautiful, orange coloured sky. Fog covered every where, The moon shone purple and it was so dry. The orange sunset was shining everywhere. The mud gets very watery. Gusty wind blew through the trees. The trees swayed side to side, the trees have have gnarly branches. The highwayman dashed through the trees and dark now he galloped as fast as he could, he wouldn't stop until he had arrived. He wouldn't even blink it was like he was chased by a lion.

As the night grew darker and darker, the highwayman knocked on the shutters. No one stirred, no one answered. When no one answered, the highwayman thought he was too late! He whistled up to the window slowly. Highwayman whistled up too window even louder to see if Bess would come out. He was very upset because he thought he was late. Then he knocked on the glass window just in case Bess was still there. Bess appeared in the corner! The highwayman happy she wasn't gone, But it was a stormy night so he is very cold. There were fog every where so he could't really see anything.

By Imran Dib in FD, a very creative piece of work inspired by Tony Cragg.



Important Messages:

Online school performance consent

Please make sure you have responded to the letter about consent for your child to be part of video performances such as assemblies. Without your consent, your child will not be able to take part in these school events, which we have to do remotely this year due to Covid safety measures.

Family Nativity Night

This year's nativity performance by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be a recorded one because we cannot have families into school this term. We will send out the private YouTube link to parents/carers on Tuesday 15th December at 6pm so that families can enjoy watching it together at home. Children will be sent home with a snack to enjoy while watching the show.

Home learning Course

The Islington School Improvement Service has created a free short course for parents on how to support their children during periods of learning from home. The course is run by both Primary and Early Years consultants and will examine how to motivate different age pupils to engage in learning. It is taking place online, on Wednesday 16th December from 10am-11:30am. It has been set up on Eventbrite so that parents who are interested can sign up themselves using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/learning-at-home-supporting-parents-tickets-130778637425>

Welfare benefits and employment support workshop for parents/carers in Camden or Islington

Join our free online workshop on how to navigate the benefits system and access free local employment support, and hear from local parents' charity The Parent House on how they can support you. Our team of experts will answer any of your questions and guide you through the process.

Wednesday 9 December 1 1:00 - 12.30 Zoom

For questions and to book your free place, email: VRUReferrals@islington.gov.uk

You will receive login details by phone and/or email.