

North Ealing News



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"North Ealing works inclusively with our families to maximise the learning potential of all children in our community"

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Newsletter Spring 1

'How do you spell love? You don't spell it you feel it.'

Pooh and Piglet

Introduction

Headteacher's Comments

The Spring Term 2020 has been as busy as ever here at NES. It is wonderful to see the buds on the trees and the colossal number of bulbs coming up, letting us know spring is around the corner! We have enjoyed various extracurricular endeavours this half term; my particular favourites being Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Week and school council initiatives such as raising money for the Australian Bush Fire Appeal. We also welcome all the new children and families who have joined us this term.

At the beginning of term the teachers training day focussed on our development of the NES Curriculum which will be available to see on the school website after half term. We also introduced our new learning values and enhanced school vision. As a school we agreed to add the learning behaviour of 'resilience,' a life skill that seems relevant and useful. We have also decided to add to our School Values all the ideas that underpin our new approach to the curriculum: Nurturing Values, Enquiring, Purposeful Learning and Sustainability. You can view all of this on the school website and I am sure you will be hearing more from your children at home.

Next half term we are looking forward to; Science Week, World Book Week, the relaunch of our Healthy Eating Initiative and the onset of course of Spring. Please get involved and if you have any spare time we are always looking for parents to come in and run relevant workshops during Science Week and or story telling during book week.

It was wonderful to see the parents' evenings so well attended this week and please if you did not have an appointment make sure you see your child's class teacher after half term. We will be sending out a Parents' Survey later today. Please take time to complete this survey to give us feedback about life at NES.

Parking and Dangerous Driving

Sadly, we continue to have a number of issues with inconsiderate and at times dangerous driving in the areas around the school. Only today I had an email from a worried resident in Summerfield Road about reckless driving in the road. Please can I remind all parents and carers that you should not be driving down Summerfield Road as it is a dead end and it is very dangerous for all

our children to try to turn around. Please can we also ask people not to park on Pitshanger Lane in front of the zebra crossing as it causes congestion and puts our children at risk. Please can you also ensure that you do not park in Kent Lodge parking area as this is for their staff only. We are working with our local police and our local MP to try and improve the situation around the school and make it safer for the whole community. Please walk or cycle to school as much as possible or even park away from the school and do the last part of the journey on foot. Try leaving 5 minutes earlier in order to be able to make these small changes.

PTA Updates and News

Thursday 27th February after school Book Day Character costume sale (If you have some to donate please put in the yellow bin by the PTA shed) and come along to support.

Friday 13th March PTA Quiz Night.

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd April are the annual Easter Egg hunts please come along to help and we still need an event manager for this event. (This is a straightforward event).

Preview date-School Fete Saturday 11th July-Get this in your diary and please volunteer to help.

You can contact the PTA on <https://neslearningzone.com/pta/>

We continue to need help with the running of the PTA from the school year 2020. We are still searching for a Vice Chair to take over from the outward going Vice Chair. Various events managers: we are particularly looking for a couple of people to step forward to run the discos, the annual Easter Egg hunt and the Summer Fete. Shed management is also required, as ever. Again, this can be done as a group to make the experience more fun. Job shares would be a good option for all the above roles. This makes it more sociable and offers the ability to share the load.

If you are interested in really making a difference to your children's school please email the PTA - pta@neslearningzone.com or come to see Mrs Flowers.

Ealing Half Marathon

Once again some members of the NES community have expressed an interest in running the Ealing Half Marathon in order to raise much needed money for the school. From the proceeds we are hoping to raise money for ongoing improvements to our ICT resources. If you would like to get fit this year, and get to know more people from the school community, then email northealingrun@gmail.com for training dates and sign up information.

Achievements

Whole School

Healthy Schools London Gold Award

We were very proud to receive our award last week at the Healthy Schools Conference at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ealing Common. The award is in recognition that NES values the health and wellbeing of the whole school community. We would like to thank Miss Jenkins, Miss Hossami, Mrs Jackson and Ms Pile in particular for all their hard work. Please look out for a letter today informing you about our new packed lunch policy and sugar smart initiative. We are also in conversation with Harrisons Catering Company to once again reduce the amount of sugar in our school dinners. We are always trying to keep our children as active as possible at school. Please

make sure you work with us at home to promote a healthy lifestyle with a focus on good fresh food, less sugar, more exercise, enough sleep and less screen time. Take the opportunity this holiday to get out and about together.

NES Gallery Competition

Over the Christmas holidays we asked you to get out and about in our wonderful city and create a masterpiece of your favourite building in London. The entries are displayed in the NES Art Gallery through the link-they are amazing! Thanks so much to Mrs Stonebridge who not only inspires these competitions she also mounts the finished products and encourages the children to get involved. The winners of the competition were as follows:

The Globe Theatre, Dora Year 5
The Gherkin Building, Emma 4J
The London Eye, Blake Year 6
Futuristic London Skyline, Year 6
Tower Bridge, Lucy 1L
Tower Bridge and the Shard, Phena Year 6

We also had a number of runners up;

Big Ben, Esme Year 6, The Gherkin, Oliver Year 3, Wembley Stadium, Hayden Year 4, London Skyline, Riona Year 6, Buckingham Palace, Aishani Year 4, The BT Tower, Lauren Year 6, Tower Bridge, Jules Year 2, The Walkie Talkie Building, Andrea Year 5, The Serpentine Gallery, Elowenn Year 1, City Hall, Eleanor Year 5, London Sites Poster, Flora Year 6, The Great Fire of London, Alexandra Year 2, Lena RE Mother and Daughter collaboration.

School Council

Thanks to all the school council members for working so hard this term on a number of projects. We have voted for the WWF to be our chosen charity and will be sending the phenomenal £740.93 raised today towards the Australian Bushfire Appeal. The children have also been busy spending the kind PTA donation of £500 on outside equipment. We have also come up with new ideas for the ongoing problem of lost property at NES in addition to discussions about various school issues. Keep up the good work.

Pupil Achievements

Maths Challenge

Four Year 6 pupils - Blake, Christo, Lucia and Moana, entered the Explore Learning Maths Challenge and made their way to the Final, which was held last week at the Natural History Museum. The pupils were praised for their collaborative approach and they fully lived up to their motto - positive thinking adds up. Whilst they did not win, they represented one of the top five primary schools in the UK to reach the final. Meeting Bobby Seagull, a passionate maths teacher and TV personality, was one of the highlights of the day as was receiving a goody bag full of prizes for each pupil - Well done to the four pupils and their teachers who have supported them throughout.

Sporting Achievements

At the start of this term we saw a great result from the girls football team against Hobbayne. The girls won 5-2, with a hat-trick from Sety (Year 5) and two other goals from Lauren (Year 6) and

Isabelle (Year 6). As a teacher and their football coach, I was immensely proud of their team work, communication and resilience - Well done girls!

This half term has also seen a Year 6 Inter Tag Rugby competition and Year 3 Inter Tri Golf Tournament. Through our Sports Council, we are encouraging more students to take part in different sports in their classes. During the Tag Rugby, 6MP were victorious with a solid defence line by Owen and team. Year 3 took part in an exciting Tri - Golf competition where 3G came out on top. More Inter class tournaments to come!

Next half term will see our NES Year 3-Year 6 teams take part in the annual Gymnastics Tournament at Ellen Wilkinson School, basketball and more Peal Shield football matches.

Attendance

Last half term, Autumn 2: 28.10.19 – 19.12.19, the class with the best attendance was 3D with 99%. The classes with the best punctuality were Nursery Fox class. Overall, the school achieved 97.3% attendance for this period. Well done everyone and try to keep this up!

Attendance Cup Information

We have introduced an Attendance Cup that will go to the class with the best attendance, on a weekly basis. The winners will be read out in assembly and parent/carers will be notified, each week, via the daily newsflash.

Be In The Know

EYFS

Nursery has started the year with great enthusiasm. They welcomed some new starters this term and they have all settled really well into the routines and expectations. This term, the children were lucky to be visited by parents who talked to them about Chinese New Year and who brought lovely resources for the children; a great time was had by all and we offer our thanks to the kind parents who gave of their time. The children have really enjoyed their study of Traditional Tales and they especially enjoyed the Winter Walk in the Park (I think the delicious hot chocolate at the end of it might have helped!)

Reception have also had a busy term and this culminated in the beautiful music concert which Mr Mehew organised. Children were able to showcase the songs they have been singing in their music lessons to their parents and it was wonderful to see (and hear) their enjoyment, happiness and talent shine through. We look forward to hearing some more.

We hope everyone has a good break over the half term and stays safe!

Key Stage 1

Year 1 have had a busy return to school this half term. They enjoyed working together

collaboratively to produce some traditional storytelling through moving pictures and their art work was further enhanced during Arts Week by their study of Monet and their production of weather related artwork. A big thank you to the parents who came in to talk to the children about Chinese New Year, the children had great fun exploring this celebration in class.

Year 2 have been immersing themselves in their study of the Great Fire of London this half term. They have started their trips to Gunnersbury Museum where 2P, the first class to go, took part in workshops and drama around this theme. It was also revisited during Arts Week where the children produced bags which would hold the diary of Samuel Pepys.

We also had two class assemblies this half term.

2HM started us off with a very informative and interactive retelling of the Great Fire of London. They used song, examples of their work and diary entries to tell us how the fire started, where it spread, how much of London was affected and how it ended-Brilliant!. Well done to everyone in 2HM.

2R took us on a tour of this topic and others studied in their assembly last week. I have never witnessed an episode of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? followed through right until the end, but the contestants in 2R really showed off their knowledge and answered all their questions to win the jackpot. Well done all.

We wish everyone a safe and happy break over half term.

Key Stage 2

6MP treated us to a journey to Ancient Greece and the famous myths. Using the theme of some of the well known reality television shows and game shows we were entertained with tales of the Gods' antics and adventures. The children shared a great deal of information through high quality acting, singing and the odd pun! We really appreciated all the hard work and display of knowledge of Greek Myths. Well done to everyone in 6MP.

Thanks to Mrs DeGale and 3D for inspiring us all to get reading. Their assembly was a fun filled performance of all things related to reading - there were extracts from their favourite books, choral reciting of poems, acting, singing, dancing and cinematography. This was a clear indication of how much the class enjoy reading and understand the magic and importance of reading. I think we all left the hall thinking about our own literacy experiences and how we might expand our reading repertoires.

Despite the recent inclement weather, many children have been out and about. Some of our year 5 children have enjoyed a trip to Brentside to watch a very entertaining musical, based on the Little Mermaid. The show was hosted by a number of year groups - it was fantastic to see many ex North Ealing children on stage. Others attended a fantastic Creative Printmaking Workshop, at St Benedict's, where the children produced some beautiful pieces of art, inspired by the local area.

This week, some of Year 5 and 6 were lucky enough to attend a Maths Challenge workshop, held at Trail Finders. There were 13 local schools taking part in a variety of exciting, competitive and

innovative challenges. Our children did their very best and enjoyed the competitive nature of the event. Another group of Year 5s went along to an Aerospace Engineering day at Ellen Wilkinson school. The girls came back well and truly inspired having had Astronautical Engineer, Bianca Cefalo, talk to them about her work and research to date and her role in space systems.

Last but by no means least, Mrs Stonebrige took a group of Year 3 children to St David's Nursing Home, this week. This was another success following on from the trip at Christmas. The residents were visibly lifted by the children's visit and seemed really happy as the children read and chatted to them.

Last week, Year 4 invited Rabbi Zvi Solomon to run a workshop tailored to their learning - this allowed the children to extend their understanding of different aspects of Judaism and really get a feel for some of the rituals and ceremonies that they have been learning about.

Developing the cultural capital of all our children always remain at the forefront of our minds so thank you to all the staff who take the time to organise these special events.

Signpost

Relationship Education

The Department of Education is introducing compulsory Relationships Education from September 2020. At NES we have been developing our policy and provision in preparation for September. As a part of this process we would like all parents and carers to attend a parent workshop with our Ealing Health Improvement Officer in the New Hall on Wednesday 4th March at 9am.

Coronavirus Updates

Please see the most recent email and the school website for the most up to date guidance on the development of the Coronavirus.

Changes in Contact Details/Medical Conditions

Please remember to update the School Office with any changes in contact details and/or health needs or allergies your child may have.

Please ensure that the school has a valid number to contact you on during the day. If you are unable to access your mobile phone, please provide us with an alternative number in case of any emergencies.

Polling Station

We have had notification that North Ealing will be closed on Thursday 7th May 2020 for the GLA elections-please add this date to your diary.

Park Run

On Friday 27th March 2020 we will be having our termly mile run in Pitshanger Park. All the children in Reception to Year 6 will be running and to make it a success we need lots of volunteers.

Child Mental Health Training

A new qualification in children's mental health will be hosted by North Ealing School in March. It

is an OFSTED recognised, Level 2 qualification in Understanding Children's & Young People's Mental Health fully funded for 6 weeks by the Government from the adult education budget. The school have received an incredible amount of interest from both parents and staff and look forward to working together to support the children and young people in our community.

500 Words National and NES School Competitions

500 words is an exciting competition hosted by BBC Radio 2 and invites children between the ages of 5 and 13 to get their imaginations going and pen a story of 500 words or less.

This year at NES, we have launched our own school 500 words competition and have invited all pupils to write their own story which will be judged by teachers to find the most creative story from each class. Winners will be announced on World Book Day, Thursday 5th March.

If your child wishes to enter their story into the national competition, their class teacher will photocopy it so that it can be sent home for you to enter before the closing date, Thursday 27th February. For more details of the national 500 words competition, go to:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1>

Sponsored Read-a-thon

To coincide with World Book Day in March and to develop a love of reading in our children, we are running a sponsored read-a-thon, in which children are invited to complete a series of challenges. They will be encouraged to read texts that might otherwise not read. All money raised will go towards the purchase of Usborne Books for the school. For further details, please read the separate letter e-mailed out today. Children will also be given their Scavenger Hunt Challenge sheet which has a sponsor form on the reverse side.

Reading Skills Talk for Parents

At North Ealing, we have started a new approach to teaching comprehension skills for Key Stage 2 pupils. Children are taught one of eight specific reading skills each week building up a repertoire of skills which will help pupils to understand texts at a greater depth. To find out more about this new approach and other reading strategies taught in EYFS and Key Stage 1 and how you can encourage your child to read more at home, come to a Reading Skills Talk for parents on Wednesday 24th February at 9.00 am. The talk will be repeated on the same day at 3.30 pm.

School Half Term Holidays

School finishes today Friday 14th February, at normal time, for the half term holidays. We wish you all a happy and restful break and look forward to seeing everyone back on **Monday 24th February**.
