

North Ealing News



Pitshanger Lane
London W5 1RP
T: 020 8997 2653
E: admin@northealing.ealing.sch.uk
W: northealingprimary.org

'At North Ealing Primary we inspire and nurture all our children to become aspirational, lifelong learners through an inclusive, ambitious and engaging curriculum.'

Friday 10 February 2023

'Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom'.....Marcel Proust, French Author

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Spring Term has started with a sense of purpose and energy. The children have engaged with school life to the full and have been involved in a number of new initiatives. Our focus during whole school assemblies has been on kindness, creativity and making connections. The children have been challenged with trying something new in 2023, something we could all do. The half term has ended with the Place 2 Be Children's Mental Health Week where we have explored the theme 'Let's connect'. We have been busy asking questions about what 'feeling connected' means to each of us.

Of course our thoughts also turn to the devastating news from Turkey and Syria as they try to cope with the devastation from the recent earthquakes. The British Red Cross have launched an emergency appeal which you can find on the Red Cross website and we will be looking at fundraising for the appeal after the break <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/donate/donation-questions/emergency-appeals>

Next half term we look forward to meeting with parents and carers during the parent consultation meetings the week beginning the 21st February, where we will update you on your children's progress and well being at school.

Oracy

In September, we joined the Voice 21 programme to develop oracy skills within our school.

Why does Oracy matter?

At North Ealing, we strongly believe that oracy improves children's outcomes in all areas of learning. It also fosters wellbeing and confidence, enabling all children to have a voice and to be heard, mirroring the objectives we have as a Rights Respecting School.

Crucially, oracy equips children with the skills they need in their lives beyond school, and to be active members of the community.

To date, Mr Gami and Mr Rutherford have been trialling various strategies to improve the quality of speaking and listening in their own classes, and some of these have now been rolled out to all classes across the school.

From this half term, our newsletter will also contain a regular home learning challenge which you may wish to complete with your children - we want everyone to be involved! If you would like to send any videos of the oracy talk task in action, please send them to admin@northealing.ealing.sch.uk

Oracy home learning challenge

Talking point

Many schools invite animals to be brought into school as they can have some benefits for children. But, do all children want them in their classrooms?



You can read more about this story here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/59906757>

Discuss the following statement at home:

Pets should be allowed into North Ealing Primary School.

Talk tactics you can use in this discussion:



Instigator

- In my opinion...
- I think...



Builder

- I agree and would like to add...
- Your point made me think...



Challenger

- I disagree because...
- To challenge you, I think...

Debating Club

In line with our new focus on Oracy skills Year 5 and 6 have re-established the NEPS Debating Club . This half term the children have discussed the pros and cons of wearing a school uniform and also how we decide what is right and wrong - great philosophical enquiries!

School Council

Our School Council has been incredibly busy this half term. They have been working on fundraising ideas for the World Wildlife Fund and have decided on a few events next half term. Additionally, the children have set up a consultation project to look at the possibility of updating the school uniform. Most children from Year 2 to 6 were asked to vote as to whether they would like the school uniform to change. The results were; 293 children voted to change and 109 voted against a change. Subsequently, we invited the lady from Juniper uniform shop to develop some new designs. The change of uniform will be rolled out over the course of two years from September 2023 and more information will follow. We have had our school uniform for over 24 years and we think the children are right, time for a change.

Online Safety

Monday 6th February kick started the National Internet Safety Week and the theme this year was 'Want to talk about?' The campaign was encouraging children to talk about any concerns or worries they have regarding online safety by making space for conversations about life online.

All year groups took part in various different online safety activities and units of work to ensure that the message of staying safe online was delivered across the school.

The children in each key stage attended an internet safety assembly delivered by Mrs Mirza, the computing lead for NEPS.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are also engaging with a survey about their use of the internet and testing their knowledge through the 'SafeSkills' programme (new this year).

EYFS

This half term the children in EYFS have been learning about Chinese New Year. They have taken part in a fabulous workshop that has helped the children understand more about the Chinese Zodiac and taken part in the dragon dance using props such as fans and parasols. The children found out that the dragon dance warns away evil spirits and the dragon symbolises good luck, long life and wisdom.

Nursery has had a busy half term with lots of highlights and fantastic parental support and engagement. Lots of our parents joined us on our Winter Walk in Pitshanger Park. It was a really frosty adventure as we crunched across the grass and spotted lots of wintery sights. Many of our parents have also attended three soft start mornings to further engage with their child's learning in nursery. We look forward to

continuing these. The children have had a really productive term filled with learning and celebrating new things every day. It finished on a high note with our end of half term tea party which we agreed would be a good idea after reading 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea', it certainly was!

KS1

Year 1 started the term with a fabulous workshop about weather, climates and the Great British Isles. The children travelled the world to experience different climates, finishing in Great Britain where they looked at the 4 countries that make Britain great.

During Arts Week the children in Year 1 have been studying the artist Monet. The children explored Monet's style of painting and experimented with mixing different colours together to make shades that represent the weather in their story 'The Storm Whale.' The children have displayed their art work in the classroom and had the opportunity to present their creation and explain the content to their peers.

To round off the term the children in 1B presented a wonderful assembly all about their learning.

Year 2 classes have stepped back in time this half term, to 1666. The Great Fire of London was raging through the streets and the children have been at the heart of the action by reading extracts from Samuel Pepys's diary. During their Art lessons the children have been using charcoal to recreate silhouettes of the city of London during the Great Fire with a focus on The Monument Building. Finally, 2HM shared all their learning from this period in History during their marvellous class assembly.

KS2

The children in Year 3 have been green fingered this half term. The children have been planting bulbs and flowers around the school grounds ready for the Spring and have taken part in the RSPB Big Garden BirdWatch, which helps the charity identify the number and species of bird spotted in England. Year 3 have also been using Busy Things, a computer programming system that enables children to learn the basics of coding.

At the beginning of term, Year 4 took part in an exciting Egyptian workshop. They had to solve the mystery of Daphne Witherspoon's curse of the tomb. In order to establish the origin of the curse they ordered events chronologically on a timeline. They then interviewed Osiris, King Tut and The Queen Nefertari linked artefacts to the characters to really learn about their profiles and delve deep into the story in order to uncover the case. Their findings were directly linked to our big question, 'Why are people so fascinated by the Ancient Egyptians?' Year 4 successfully freed Daphne from the curse, celebrated their victory and came closer to answer the Big Question. Well done Year 4!

Last week 4W took us on a graphic journey through the digestive system - starting with the function of different teeth and the creation of a bolus in the mouth to absorption of water by the large intestines,

ending with elimination of stools! They kept their audience captivated by some great acting, reporting and singing. Well done to Miss Weston and 4W.

The Year 5 children have taken part in Arts Week this half term where they have been studying Georgia O'Keefe who is best known for her flower paintings. They have been practising new drawing skills such as hatching, cross hatching, contouring and blending and combining this with different art mediums to create their own flower art. The children have enjoyed experimenting with watercolours, pastels and wax crayons to alter the texture of their paintings as well as combining different colours to represent their chosen flower.

On Friday 3rd February a group of Year 5 children accompanied by Mrs Tranter and Mrs Theti had the opportunity to go to the Guildhall in Central London to attend a Creative Translation Workshop organised by Christ's Hospital School. We worked with professional translators to translate cartoons from French into English and a Ukrainian children's picture book - this was the first time it had ever been translated into English! They then had the chance to create their own comics in different languages which included; Greek, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese and French. It was a brilliant day teaching us all about modern foreign languages.

In Year 6 the children have been learning all about the body in their science topic animals and humans. They have been looking closely at circulation and in particular how blood is pumped around the body. The children were very lucky to have a parent, a specially trained haematologist, come into school to talk to them about the heart, its 4 chambers and how the blood is pumped around the body. The children asked lots of interesting questions and learnt a great deal more about the circulatory system.

6T visited the Natural History Museum last Friday to consolidate their learning from last term's Science topic: Evolution. The class attended a workshop in which they examined fossils and investigated how organisms evolved in order to adapt to changing environments. Moreover, the children carried out an experiment which demonstrated how natural selection dictates evolutionary paths and changes in population. The children had great fun exploring the museum afterwards for signs of adaptation over time.

Music and More at NEPS!

Our musical life continues to flourish in so many ways! The CHOIR felt able to invite their parents/carers to an open rehearsal this week to share what they have been working on in preparation for a concert later in the year. This concert will also feature the Chamber Choir, our Orchestra and solo items offered by the pupils.

Years 3/4/5 have been learning the Ukulele in their music classes and are making excellent progress - thanks to generous funding from the PTA.

Pupils continue to offer piano items to introduce assemblies which increases their confidence and 'risk-taking' learning skills.

Our thanks to Mr Flowers for coming into Year 6 as part of the 'Building a Groove' music unit, demonstrating the drum-kit and improvisation with the beat maker. We continue to use 'Sing Up' as a source of inspiration from Nursery to Year 6.

Sports at NEPS

This half term has been all about Girls football at NEPS. On January 26th our mixed Year 5 and Year 6 team took part in Willow Tree's advanced league at Cardinal Wiseman. Our amazing students were placed 2nd, winning a silver medal and narrowly missing out on 1st to St Gregory's School. This took us through to compete in the semi-finals for the London Youth Games. The girls played with skill, precision and true sportsmanship, unfortunately missing out to Feilding School, who will represent Ealing in the final stages. Well done to everyone who took part!

A HUGE SURPRISE - Today during our assembly it was announced that GB sprinter Victoria Ohuruogu will be visiting NEPS on Wednesday 8th March. The children will have the chance to take part in a sponsored fitness circuit and have the chance to ask Victoria questions in a Q and A session.

Today your child will have received a sponsorship form from their class teacher to use to help raise money for the event. You can also sponsor your child by visiting: www.sportsforschools.org and clicking on the button "Set up a Fundraiser Page" followed by "Find my school" and typing in North Ealing. Creating an online page is quick and easy, it allows instant sharing too.

Please ensure that **sponsorship form and money** are returned to the school office one week after the event has taken place (Wednesday 15th March).

Please also make sure that your children come to school on Wednesday 8th March with their PE Kits!

Rights Respecting

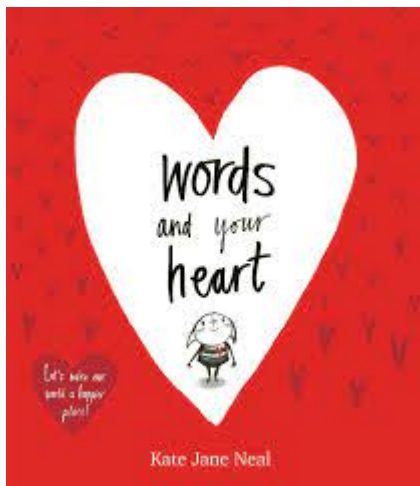
Five child activists you need to know - young voices are changing the world.

<http://www.unicef.org.au/blog/stories/five-child-activist>

Across the world, children and young people have been protesting and speaking up about what matters to them. Why? Because they feel country leaders are not listening to concerns on issues which impact children now, and into the future. While a wave of protests by children has gained momentum over the past few years, child rights activism is nothing new. We take a look at five young activists using their voice to make change.

Book Recommendations

With mental health week in mind please have a look at;

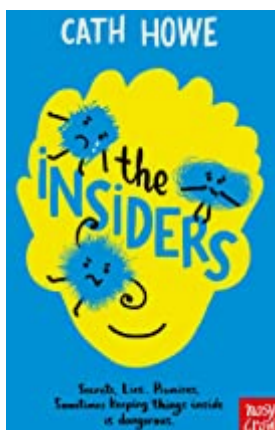


Words and Your Heart by Kate Jane Neal:

This is an excellent book about the power of words and the importance of choosing them carefully if we want to have a positive impact and not hurt others.

'One of our deepest needs is relationships. We know that when we feel valued, supported or loved the world is a safer place. When we feel rejected, alone, judged or unloved it gets scary. I believe that the school classroom is a community and every community has a culture. Cultures can be taught and caught, and my hope is to be a part of shaping environments that help children be happier in school and at home.'

Kate Neal



The Insiders by Cath Howe

I am currently reading The Insiders, by Cath Howe. It is a fascinating story, which explores the true feelings, emotions and different points of view of several characters as they try to sneak into school. I would recommend it to children in Year 5 and above, as they would more understand the themes in the book. *Sarra, 5R*

To mark Valentine's Day on Monday 14th February 'A loving heart is the truest wisdom'.....Charles Dickens

Signpost

Parking Issues at NEPS

Can we thank all the parents who have helped this half term by parking away from the school and/or walking and cycling to school. We all have a responsibility to make the surrounding areas of the school safe in addition to respecting the residents in our community. We will continue to work hard each day to keep our children safe and ask everyone to be considerate when arriving and collecting from school.

REMINDER: Free Girls Chess Starter Tournament and Training - Year 4-6

Ellen Wilkinson for Girls is working in partnership with the England Women's Chess Coach Mr Lorin D'Costa to promote tournament chess to primary school girls. They are offering a FREE girls chess starter tournament, and FREE training with England women's 5 times winner on Sunday 26th February at Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls. It is for Year 4-6 primary school girls who are new to tournament chess or without English Chess Federation rating.

The schedule of the day and sign up details are attached and the deadline to enter is Sunday 12th February.

World Book Day

Dress up day will be Friday 3rd March. Please encourage all the children to dress up as their favourite book character. There will be a range of activities throughout the day in order to promote reading for life.

Reporting Absences

Please can we remind you to report ALL absences to the school office by 8.30am. This can be done by calling the absence line 0208 997 2653 and leaving a message, texting using the Schoolcomms App or emailing admin@northealing.ealing.sch.uk . Please indicate your child/ren's name, class and full reason for absence. **Stating they are 'unwell' is not sufficient.** Many thanks for your cooperation in this.

Shaping Us Campaign

The Princess of Wales launches "Shaping Us" Campaign to raise awareness of the unique importance of early childhood

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Y_5N1bDWB4

Twitter

Please take the time to look at our Twitter feed @NorthEalingSch

You can also find our Twitter feed from our home page on our school website www.northealingprimary.org

End of Term Information

We will finish for the February half term today, Friday 10th February 2023, at the usual time and return to school on Monday 20th February 2023.

We hope you all have a restful break.