

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.’

Thursday 21st December 2023

‘Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness.’ Desmond Tutu

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take a moment to thank our teaching staff, support staff, office and site staff for their continued dedication to NEPS over the past term. It goes without saying that all the staff continue to work incredibly hard to make the school such a purposeful and successful place. I have also been hugely impressed by the staff commitment to their own professional development and school improvement. We have updated our school improvement plan on our website allowing parents and carers to have a deeper understanding of the school’s priorities-please take a look. For the children it has been an eventful and exciting few weeks. As ever our NEPS children approach everything with a zest for life and a constant curiosity.

<https://www.northealingprimary.org/school-improvement-plan/>

We are very grateful to all our parent volunteers who have given up so much of their own time to support the school in a number of ways this term. The school benefits hugely from the skills and help that our

volunteers bring to a number of tasks, trips and events in general.

A massive thank you to all who donated books via the 'tree book tags'. It's with your generosity that we are able to use exciting new texts and resources that celebrate the diversity of our community. We are ever grateful for your ongoing support. Please see the photo for an example of your generous donations.



Assemblies

Our final assembly today was based on an Oracy theme that we have been discussing this term - What feels better to give a present or to receive one?

Piano Assembly-Early in December the children were treated to a rendition of The Snowman by Raymon Briggs, performed by our pianists and supported by their teacher Zillah-a great way to start the festive season.

As is becoming customary, the students from the Drama Studio London (DSL) kindly put on 3 free pantomimes - A Snow Queen for Reception, KS1 and two performances of Snow White for KS2. These were thoroughly enjoyed by children and staff alike. Thank you DSL!

Shhh-Special Pantomime-Once again the children were thoroughly entertained by some mystery characters from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



PTA

It was wonderful to see so many families come and support the school on Saturday 9th December. Events such as this are NEPS at its very best and are brought alive by events such as the KS1 choir performance, ex pupils sharing their musical talents and demonstrations from the dance group. Another highlight of the day was the marvellous food and drink stall which was enjoyed by all and the superb sound system run by a very kind NEPS Dad. Of course behind the scenes are the PTA volunteers who give up their own time and work relentlessly hard raising much needed funds for the school. An example of this is the recent purchase

of five interactive whiteboards for Nursery and Reception costing nearly £18K. We are hugely grateful and please ask everyone to get involved in future events.

The 2023 Christmas Fair raised £7,848.40-what an incredible achievement!

Achievements

House Points

We have completed a whole term of our new house point reward system and the house captains have been doing a great job at collecting the house points from each classroom every Friday.

The children have been working hard at demonstrating our NEPS learning values and earning lots of house points for their houses. The leading house has changed regularly throughout the term but at the end of the Autumn Term there is one house taking the lead.

Well done to House of Perseverance (Yellow) with 6773 points.

Festive Concerts

It was an absolute pleasure to attend all the festive concerts this year. I mentioned to staff that there was an air of confidence in all the shows from Nursery right up to UKS2. As a community it was wonderful to see so many families attending and supporting the children with the learning of words, costumes and for just being a part of the shows. Thanks must go to so many people, as the shows are always a team effort, whether performing, serving refreshments, setting up the venue or preparing their pupils-well done to everyone.

Can I also say a huge thank you for the very generous donations that will be going towards covering the costs at Christmas and towards the opening of our new Sensory Room in January.

Anti-Bullying week and Interfaith week were a big success, as we explored a number of religions, cultures, dances and the use of meditation to improve well-being and overall health. A big thank you to all those who volunteered their time. Running in parallel was Anti-Bullying week - of course, at NEPS, we work hard with the children all the time in order to recognise and combat any bullying - anti-bullying week allowed us to raise the profile of this very serious issue.

The School Council

I am incredibly proud of our lively 2023-24 School Council who have worked hard this term to fundraise for a number of causes. Next term the team will be working with Mr Facey to renew our RRS Gold Award-watch this space.

Children in Need -£381.15

Red Cross and Unicef: Skipping £876.50 Doughnuts £390.40

Attendance

Our overall attendance has improved this term and is currently standing at 96.2%. Please ensure that your child/ren are in school on time each day as attendance affects each child's future attainment. Children can come to school if they are on antibiotics, as long as they are not vomiting, have diarrhoea or a temperature. You just need to complete a form from the office and we will administer it to them as and when.

Online Safety

This half term we continued our online safety approach with a whole school assembly teaching the children to 'Be SMART with a heart'. Our focus this half term was the 'M' rule in SMART, which stands for 'Meet'. The children were taught to be careful with people they only know online and tell a trusted adult straight away if they are ever asked: to meet up, send photos or videos or are asked to video chat with them. The children completed some challenges which we will share in our next assembly in the New Year.



Sports at NEPS

Girls Football

We travelled to Woodlands Academy on the 6th of November, full of hope and excitement after performing well in a tournament the week before. We started the match well and our training was paying off. After only a few minutes, I scored from a corner kick from Lila. Despite our pressure, the game remained 1-0 at half-time. We came out for the second half ready to add to our total and Lila quickly scored following a pass from me. Then I scored again, following a great pass from Alanna. We were on top and showed it when Lila scored again, followed by another from Lila, then another from Lila! The final score was 6-0 to us. Well done to all the players: Najda, Ala, Alanna, Maryam, Fatima, Lila, Maya, Lily U, Molly and Sophie (all year 6).
Najda, Year 6.

Boys Football

Our match against Woodlands on the 23rd November was a match we were looking forward to, as it was our first match in the Peel Shield this year. The match was even to start with, but we scored first and then scored a second soon after. However, Woodlands fought back and were soon winning 4-2. In the second half, we regrouped as a team and scored 6 goals, to ensure the match finished 8-4 to us. The goalscorers were Lawi with 3, Mikel with 2 and Charlie DM, Henry and Joseph all scoring one each. Our next match is in the New Year and we hope to get another victory.

Mikel, 6T

Art



Registration and submissions for the Young Artists' Summer Show 2024 open soon. Why not use the Christmas holidays to get creative?

Now in its sixth year, this popular online and onsite exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts features and celebrates the creativity of young artists aged 4-19.

Registration and submissions are open from 8th January - 27th March 2024. For more information and how to submit your work, please visit: <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>

To round off the term, year groups have been developing their fine motor skills, critical thinking, and self-expression through various forms of printmaking. They have worked hard, made a lot of mess and had lots of fun producing cards with a variety of designs. Here are a few examples. Well done all.



Oracy home learning challenge

Please share videos of your discussions at:
admin@northealing.ealing.sch.uk

Talking point

Last week, the world celebrated Human Rights Day. 10th December 2023 marked the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

You can watch some information about children's rights here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy_OU3WlQHg



Discuss the following question at home:

Why "should" anyone respect someone else's human rights?

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...

Travel News

Congratulations

Class 5R were the class with the most active journeys in our annual October Active Travel Challenge and were awarded the Trophy and a uniform free day as a reward for the fantastic effort they made to achieve a total of 242 active journeys to school.

In November the school winners for our 'Design a Bookmark' competition were announced as: Fenix (EYFS); Nefeli (KS1) and Lucy (KS2). All three pupils were presented with a £10 book token and certificate. Their entries were submitted to the borough and Lucy's design was chosen as the overall winner and will be used on the bookmarks for the Summer Term Active Travel Challenge. Well done Lucy! Please use this link to look at Lucy's entry as it was announced live on the Ealing STARS twitter account:

[Ealing STARS on X: "📣Announcing the winner of the Autumn #ActiveTravelChallenge2023 bookmark design competition. I am sure you will agree that the design showcases the best ways to travel to school in Ealing. Congratulations to Lucy in Year 5 at @NorthEalingSch. #GetEalingActive23 🎉 https://t.co/ajG5BdKHYK" / X \(twitter.com\)](https://twitter.com/NorthEalingSch/status/1708888888888888888)

Bikeability

Sixty children in Years 5 and 6 were learning Bikeability skills during the first two weeks in December. This is a very popular initiative and the places were offered on a first come first served basis. Thankfully only one day was cancelled because of heavy rain. Bikeability is the Department for Transport's flagship national cycle

training programme for school children in England. Bikeability cycle training is a practical training programme, which provides school children with a life skill and enables them to cycle confidently and competently on today's roads. The children really enjoyed the training and the trainers were very impressed with our children.

EYFS

Nursery

Nursery have been continuing their learning about different celebrations throughout the second half of the Autumn term. In November we spent a week learning about Diwali and made salt dough divas to bring home. We also took part in an Indian Dance workshop which was great fun. The children have loved talking about and sharing their experiences of birthdays and have read the story 'Kipper's Birthday' by Mick Inkpen. At the end of November the children enjoyed baking shortbread biscuits to celebrate St Andrew's Day. We began December by reading 'Bear Snores On' and learnt about all the different animals that hibernate. The children used recycled materials to build small world bear caves and enjoyed making life size caves in our indoor and outdoor classrooms which they then pretended to hibernate in! As December has progressed it is fair to say that Christmas has been in full swing in the Nursery, with the children watching 'The Littlest Elf' Panto and putting on a wonderful performance of Christmas songs. Well done Nursery children.

Reception

In Reception we have spent this half term exploring different wonderful settings, from under the sea to the treetops of the jungle. Our imagination has taken us on so many different adventures! This week we were taken on an adventure by 'The Littlest Elf' in an exciting Christmas Pantomime. We helped the tiny elf to make a very special present to give to Santa and we even had to take a trip to space in a rocket! It was fantastic! We really enjoyed watching the performance and thought that it was almost as good as our performance in our Christmas show! We are so proud of ourselves. Reception children are looking forward to lots more adventures in the new year.

KS1

Year 1

This half term we visited The Questors Theatre, in Ealing. The children were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the venue, enjoying time on the stage, in the workshop where the props and backdrops are made, as well as checking out the hundreds of shoes and costumes in the dressing room area. They created their own puppets, which linked to their DT work, and were guided by a star of the West End-Olaf, from the Frozen Musical! (Well, it was actually Shaun Lati, who is the puppeteer that controls Olaf, but it was still a treat to hear from him!)

Year 2

This half term children visited Perivale Woods. Children enjoyed going on a scavenger hunt which led to children creating Choo Choo Dwellings using all they had scavenged! Later in the day children were busy creating a spider's webs – it was great to see some highly intricate designs! We ended the day with some mark marking using acorn ink. The children participated in some lively Bollywood dancing with many children surprising us with their energy and enthusiasm! We have also created space centres using different materials and tested which was the strongest blowing down the centres with an everyday wind machine - the much needed hairdryer!

KS2

Year 3

This half term Year 3 visited the British Museum as part of our History unit 'Stone Age to Bronze Age' and to answer our big question: What was 'new' about the New Stone Age? It was their first time venturing to London on the tube and they did brilliantly. The children enjoyed becoming historians for the day, observing ancient objects and thinking about what they would have been used for. They worked fantastically well in groups and individually to locate a variety of objects, record their findings and make observational sketches. This term the children have also enjoyed creating some wonderful art inspired by cave paintings with Mrs Bray, which was shared with parents and carers during our open morning at the end of term.

Year 4

This half term Year 4 were fully immersed in an Anglo-Saxon/Viking Day. The children came in dressed as Anglo-Saxons or Vikings, we started with a chance to explore some amazing artefacts such as swords, helmets and shields. We then took part in 3 small workshops - playing some Anglo-Saxon board games, writing in Viking runes with quills and ink as well as exploring the routines of Vikings law and order including punishments. In the afternoon we took part in a small Viking battle reenactment. The children loved this day and displayed all their learning to the real life Viking who was running the day.

Year 5

The first of our class assemblies was delivered by 5M. This was a whistle stop tour of their teaching and learning related to 'forces'. The children started off with a showcase of their knowledge of the physics of forces, including their extensive research on parachute making in science and car making in DT, followed by their trip to the Science Museum. Then concluded with a demonstration of the effects of all forces via the dramatisation of the story of Deadeulus and Icarus. The audience was captivated - this was a fantastic example of how we attempt to make useful and memorable connections across the curriculum.

5R's assembly was centred on their Autumn history topic of 'What makes a good King or Queen'. We were treated to an assembly focused on 5R's learning about significant Kings and Queens, from Edward the Confessor in 1042 to Queen Victoria in the 19th Century and, importantly, what the legacy of each monarch was to our lives today. The children entertained the audience with their acting, humour, singing and audience participation and gave a very informative, enjoyable demonstration of their learning over this topic.

This week has been Arts' Week, Year 5 have continued with the regal theme with the children creating their very own version of the Bayeux Tapestry based on the knowledge they have gained of kings and queens in history. Well done Year 5!

Year 6

This half term, Year 6 have been learning about evolution and adaptation in science. As part of this topic, we visited The Natural History Museum in November to take part in a workshop on the theme of adaptation. We studied replicas of bones showing how the modern day horse has adapted to meet its changing environment and then looked in more detail at why different species might adapt. As well as the workshop, we enjoyed looking around other areas of the museum, in particular the dinosaur section.

This week, we have been refining our printing skills: producing collagraphs on the theme of a winter cityscape. We first designed our cityscape and then created a printing block in order to transfer our design onto card. The finished results are fabulous and the children all thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to explore a new artistic skill.

Safeguarding and Inclusion

This half term the safeguarding representatives in Year 6 have met with Mrs Barnes to discuss the children's views on keeping children safe in school. The meeting raised concerns around online computer games and apps. The safeguarding reps feel that parents need to know more about children's online games and apps so that they are better informed on what their child is playing or watching. As a result of this, Mrs Barnes sends out a #wakeupwednesday parent mail centred around different online communities. Please look out for these.



Free support and resources for schools and families this holiday from Team Teach

Almost there! With the holidays just around the corner, we wanted to point out some free resources that we hope will be helpful to families at this time of year.

Have you heard of My Family Coach? It is an incredible free platform for schools and families for help and support with all areas of behaviour, school and family life.

The platform includes over 50 hours of free support from the experienced team at Team Teach. There are articles, podcasts, videos, ebooks and quarterly online parent classes that you can attend and watch on-demand as well.

The resources and support cover a huge variety of topics and they are always adding more:

- Relationships
- Communication

- Mental Health and Well-being
- Friendships
- Bullying
- Calming down
- School life
- Healthy living
- At risk behaviour
- Screen time

And for this time of year, you may find articles on understanding behaviour, managing changes to routine, how to enjoy a family Christmas, using family support for childcare in the holidays, supporting your child through the school break and why self-care is not selfish.

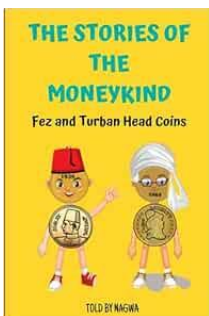
It is all available 24/7 and completely free. To access the platform simply visit My Family Coach website and create an account. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>

Rights Respecting

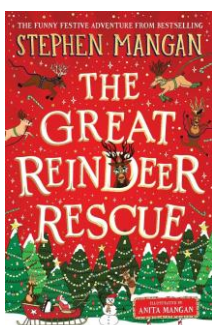
Article 28 says that all children across the world have the right to access primary education for free, and secondary education must be available to every child.

But, just as important is the quality of the education that is received – just being in a school is not enough. Article 28 also speaks of the importance of children being treated with dignity in their school setting. Also, it places additional responsibility for global education on richer countries, as it makes clear that they must help poorer countries to ensure that all children can access their right to education.

Book Recommendations



The Stories of the Moneykind by Nagwa Elbeily: These are stories about coins from different countries that can talk and they help solve mysteries from around the world. I like that the books are creative and full of good ideas. I would recommend the books to anyone who wants to read adventure stories. Kareem, 4T.



The Great Reindeer Rescue by Stephan Mangan: is an hilarious adventure story about a lesser-known reindeer, called Dave, who is always behind a very boastful Rudolph in line. When all the reindeers get 'blown' off course because of Rudolph, Dave and his friend Holly have to fly to all corners of the world to rescue all the other reindeers. If you like silly stories that will make you curl up laughing, then this is the book for you. Children of all ages will enjoy reading this book, or having it read to them. Mr Rutherford.



Wisp A Story of Hope by Zana Fraillon: This beautiful story about Hope was donated through our book donation scheme. The family who donated this book wrote a lovely message - 'For all the children whose feet patter down the hallways of North Ealing... may you always dream and remember to always breathe hope'. Mrs Flowers

Signpost

Families struggling with the cost of living may find help-

[https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-justice/help-cost-living.](https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-justice/help-cost-living)

Use of Mobile Phones Whilst on the School Site

Please can we remind everyone that the use of mobiles phones on the school site is prohibited. We need to ensure the safeguarding of all our children and therefore request that all phones be switched off and put away when entering any part of the school. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Parking

Please can we remind everyone to be considerate of the neighbours when parking in the local streets. Try to park further away and stride the rest of your journey.

Last Day of Term

Nursery finished yesterday Wednesday 20th December.

Reception – Year 6 finish today, Thursday 21st December, at 1.30pm. Please collect your children promptly.

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on **Monday 8th January 2024** and wish you and your family a peaceful and restful holiday and a Happy New Year.

