

Friday 8th February 2019

## Message from the head:

I'd like to say happy Chinese New Year to all our families who celebrated this week. Gladys and her team put on a great Chinese meal to celebrate. Keep an eye on the newsletter for a new date for our tasting session which had to be cancelled last week due to an oven failure. All equipment is back up and running now so we will set a date soon.

I'd like to say thank you to the teachers this week for organising the 'open classroom' event in KS1 and KS2 this morning. Thank you too to those of you who were able to come along. I hope you found it useful.

Tuesday was 'Internet Safety Day'. This is such an important area to ensure our children are safe when they are online and learn good practice—something they need more and more in this digital age. While we embrace the benefits of the internet and the access to resources and information, it is something that needs careful thought, particularly with children in primary school. I have noticed more and more children (some as young as EYFS and KS1) talking about 'Fortnite' and spending a lot of time on it at home. 'Fortnite' has a PEGI rating of 12 stating it has 'frequent scenes of mild violence'. This rating doesn't even take into account the ability of players to be connecting online with up to 99 players at a time of all ages and with no filtering of the language being used in on screen communication between players. Another game I hear the children talk about is 'Roblox'. At first glance this game might appear to be suitable and aimed at younger audiences, however, it has a lot of content created by users and of a much older nature. For example, I have spoken to children in KS1 who talk about playing games on it with the character from 'Friday the 13th' who 'goes around killing people'. This is a game based on an 18 certificate film. While 'Roblox' does have the ability to set tighter controls for the content and chat features for under 13s, they have to be set up manually. While I recognise that the decisions you take outside of school regarding your child's use of the internet/gaming are entirely yours to make, I also recognise, as a parent myself, it's not easy to keep up to date with the quickly changing face of the online world. Do you really know what they are playing and what those games/sites expose them to? I raise these two games as they seem to be the most popular at the moment but there are many more. I do not wish to intrude on your parenting decisions, but I do urge you to ensure you are making



## Great ways to support learning at home

### For the children to practice...

We recently came across this site which is excellent for practicing times tables and other maths skills. If you are looking for a way to help your children practice these key skills at home check it out—it's totally free!

<https://www.mathschase.com/>

Also, we subscribe for all children from Year 1 to year 6 to be able to use 'Mathletics' at home. This is a great online resource that allows your children to practice maths in a fun way. Every child has a username and password. If they have forgotten, please ask the teacher for a reminder. It is played online or using the free 'Mathletics' app for mobile devices.

<https://community.mathletics.com/signin/#/student>

### For the Grown ups...

We know that sometimes the maths strategies and skills we learnt as children are different to how our children are taught. This can lead to parents being unsure of how to help their child in maths. We have access to a fantastic resource to support you with this. It is full of short videos for you to watch that show the different strategies and how they work. To access this resource from home you will need your child's USO login which they should know. If they do not, ask their teacher and they will give it to you. Go to the 'Maths At Home' website:

<http://mathsat home.lgfl.org.uk/>

There is also a similar resource called 'Grammar Explained' which can help demystify what is taught to children in terms of grammar (which for many of us can seem like a different language as we weren't explicitly taught it when we were in school). So if you don't know what your child means when they talk about 'fronted adverbials' or 'preposition phrases' have a look. You will need the USO login for this too.

<http://grammar.lgfl.org.uk/>

## Punctuality Award

This week, our Punctuality award goes to Year 6 with just 1 late! Well done to them.



## Attendance Award

Our Attendance Award this week goes to Year 5 with 98%. Well done! Lets see if we can improve on that next week.



informed choices in terms of what you let them access and know exactly what these 'games' involve. Think too about amount of screen time—is it impacting on sleep and rest. We know tiredness can affect behaviour both at home and in school and we do see this. Have a great weekend and see you next week.

## Class Teas and Assemblies for this term...

14th February—Y6 Tea	7th March—Y4 Tea	21st March—Y2 Tea
15th Feb—Y6 Assembly	8th March—Y4 Assembly	22nd March—Y2 Assembly
28th February—Y5 Tea	14th March—Y3 Tea	28th March—Y1 Tea
1st Mar—Year 5 Assembly	15th March—Y3 Assembly	29th March—Y1 Assembly

## Term Dates 2018/19

<b>Spring Term</b>	First Day of Term:	Half Term:
Half Term:	Wed 24th April	Mon 27th-Fri 31st May
Mon 18th—Fri 22nd Feb	Bank Holiday:	Last Day of Term:
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 6th May	Tue 23rd July

## Dates for your calendar

11th February	Reception to Discover Story Centre
12th February	Year 5 to the theatre
15th February	Year 4 to the October Gallery
18th-22nd Feb	Half Term Week—School Closed
26th February	Year 2 to the CLC
27th February	Year 5 to the CLC
6th March	Nursery to Discover Story Centre
7th March	Year 4 to Science Museum
7th March	Year 5 to the Crick Institute
11th-15th Mar	STEAM Week
11th March	Y3 to Hampstead Heath Learning centre
13th March	Parent Meetings 3pm-6.30pm
14th March	Year 5 to Science Museum (am)
14th March	Year 1 to the Toy Museum
15th March	Nursery to the CLC
18th March	Year 4 to the CLC
19th March	Reception to the October Gallery
26th March	Year 4 to the Science Museum
27th March	Nursery to Kentish Town City Farm
3rd April	Reception to the CLC
5th April	Last day of term—finish at 2pm



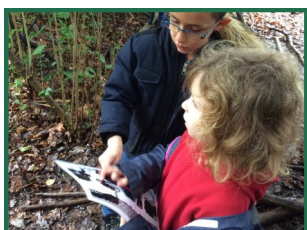
## Star of the Week Awards—this week's winners...

Well done to our 'Stars of the Week' for their hard work and effort in class.

Rec—Abiola, Y1—Darren, Y2—Isabella, Y3—Adam, Y4—Tyler, Y5—Hannah, Y6—Ilyas

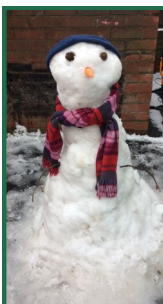


## On the Heath!



Year 1 had a fantastic trip to the Heath Education Centre this week learning all about map reading and then going out and putting what they learnt into practice by making their own treasure hunt in the secret garden.

It got very chilly towards the end of last week and the beginning of this week. It didn't stop our children enjoying their time in school though—there was a new medium to model with in Nursery (snow!) as well as some porridge making and eating in Reception to keep the chills away! The rest of this week has been pretty damp but not quite as cold. Please ensure the children come in with shoes suitable for the wet to avoid them sitting with damp feet all day.



## The cold and wet!



Year 1 had a fantastic trip to the Heath Education Centre this week

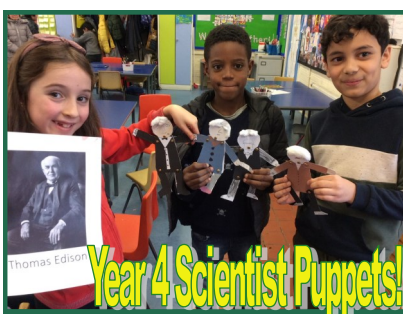
As part of their topic this week during a science lesson Year 1 were using the Virtual Reality Headsets to investigate and hold a human heart! The headset used 'augmented reality' which meant when they held the trigger picture in front of the headset a 3D beating heart appeared through the headset in front of them—it looked so real they kept trying to touch it!

## Virtual Reality in Year 1!



Despite the time of year and the cold weather we are still managing to harvest from the Fleet garden! This week the 'Stars of the Week' made a tasty Vegan Stew with Rainbow Chard. It won't be long before all the classes need to start preparing pots and getting the seeds planted for our summer, autumn and next winter's harvest!

## Stars of the week cooking session!



## Year 4 Scientist Puppets!

Y4 have been making puppets of famous scientists as part of their 'Humans topic'. They look marvellous and there is a good mix of men and women. For too long people associate the history of science with men and forget some amazing women—not our children though!



Last week Reception had a wonderful time playing phonics games with their families. Thanks to everyone who could make it. If you weren't able to come and would like to know some ideas for playing phonics games with your child please speak to Ms. Cleine.



## Phonics Open Morning in Reception

