



Southwark Primary News

May 2017

Welcome to the May issue of 'Southwark Primary News'. As we are already half-way through the summer term, we have so many exciting events to reflect upon and well as look forward to over the coming months!

Nursery & Reception News

Our **Nursery** children have been exploring pre-historic history recently as part of their exciting dinosaur topic. Our youngest children have been using their senses by walking through mud, gunge and water following in the footsteps of the dinosaurs. Currently, our nursery children are investigating wheels and finding out about vehicles and how they move.

In **Reception**, our pupils have just reached the end of their 'round the world' topic! They have stopped off in Australia, South America, North America, India and they have ended up in Antarctica. Along the way, they enjoyed tasting Mexican food, learnt salsa dancing and produced some extremely impressive art work and writing linked to each destination!

Year 1, 2, & 3 News

In **Year 1**, pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Crich Tramway Museum as part of their current 'Transport' topic. Here, they explored old trams pulled by horses and compared them to modern trams and also learnt about the important role of the drivers and conductors. They have produced some very impressive writing based around this topic. Thank you to everyone for making the visit such a success. We are extremely proud of our **Year 2** pupils for their outstanding effort in their recent end of Key Stage 1 SATs. They all amazed us with their outstanding effort and maturity – they should be very proud of themselves! Currently, our Year 2 pupils are learning about Sikhism and, as a part of this, thoroughly enjoyed trying Bhangra dancing! In English, **Year 3** have been writing non-chronological reports all about mythical creatures. This has involved the children creating their own Pokémon! In Maths pupils have investigated the properties of shapes and looked closely at angles. In their topic work, they have studied towns and cities in their geography topic which has also involved pupils designing and making their own seaside towns.

Year 4, 5, & 6 News

In **Year 4**, pupils have been investigating 'sound' in science lessons and are using their understanding of vibrating sound waves to make their own telephones. In English, they have been learning about explanation texts. As part of this, pupils designed and built their own robots and then produced some high quality writing explaining how they work! Year 4 have also thoroughly enjoyed developing their tennis and hockey skills with external coaches. **Year 5** are

currently learning about Judaism and have explored the meaning and traditions celebrated on the holy day of Shabbat. As part of this, the pupils have learnt about kosher food and tasted challah bread. As part of their recent 'Rivers and Mountains' topic, Year 5 visited the River Leen and explored how the flow of the river was effected by meanders as well as pollution. In response to the high levels of pollution, our pupils wrote persuasive letters to local councillors to urge them to clear up the pollution. We are extremely proud of our **Year 6** pupils for their hard work and dedication in their recent end of Key Stage 2 SATs. Every single pupil performed at their best which is something they should all be extremely proud of themselves for. Currently, many of Year 6 are enjoying their time away, camping at Walesby Forest and I know that they are thoroughly looking forward to taking the leading part in this year's whole-school production: **Jumanji at the Movies: The Hunt for the Golden Dice!**

Whole School Dental Check

On Tuesday, 4th July, the Teeth Team are due to visit Southwark for our second dental check and fluoride application. The previous visit in February was such a success with both dental staff and BBC reporters, who covered the day, praising our pupils for their excellent behaviour. We are confident that this visit will be just as successful. Daily brushing continues in all classes here at Southwark which is helping pupils maintain healthy teeth and gums. Keep brushing!

Nursery Open Day

On Wednesday, 25th May we held a Nursery Open Day here in school. New and prospective parents were able to come into our wonderful Nursery and see how it runs during the day and find out about the exciting and engaging learning experiences our youngest children here at Southwark enjoy every day. It was such a successful event – thank you to everyone who contributed to the day. If you have a child who is turning 3 years old this year, or know someone who does, please contact the school as we do have Nursery places available from September 2017 and we would love to give you the opportunity to come and see our fantastic Early Years provision.

Attendance

Thank you so much for your continued support with your child's attendance. High attendance and punctuality is vital for your child's social and emotional wellbeing as well as to ensure they continue to make good academic progress. Please make sure your child arrives between **8:40am and 8:55am** as this is when the classroom doors close. Please be reminded that we also have a breakfast club which starts at 7:30am, costing £2.00 per morning.



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As a school, we wish to reduce the number of late arrivals this year – we very much appreciate your continued efforts with this. **REMINDER: Tuesday, 25th July is the last day of the summer term and therefore children are expected in school on this day.**

Parking outside of school

I am sure you will agree that the safety of both pupils and parents at drop off and collection times is of utmost importance. Thank you for your continued support in making these times as safe as possible by adhering to the parking restrictions outside of school. I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your continued support in parking in accordance with the road markings. I also ask that cars do not park on the kerb as this presents risks to pedestrians walking to and from school.

Leaving the school site

I would like to remind you that both parents and children should be off the school site by 4.30pm at the latest. We cannot accept any responsibility for any injuries that occur outside of school hours. With this in mind, I need to remind you that children need to be supervised by an adult at all times, especially if they are on the adventure area. Thank you for your support with this.

School grounds and litter

We are all trying hard to keep our school grounds as tidy as possible. Thank you to the Eco Council and our enthusiastic team of litter monitors who have been working hard to keep the school grounds litter free. Please can I remind the whole school community to use the bins provided to dispose of litter. We have wonderful school grounds and it is such a shame to see litter and rubbish on the floor.

British Values - Primary Parliament

As part of our coverage of British Values, our pupils learn about democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty as well as the importance of mutual respect for and the tolerance of those with different faiths/beliefs as well as those with no faith. These topics are explored throughout the year during assemblies as well as across the curriculum. As part of our work on democracy and the rule of law, this year, we have implemented an exciting initiative here at Southwark. Representatives from classes across the school are elected by their peers and become 'MPs' in our Pupil Parliament. These 'MPs' discuss current school issues and topics and as a result of these discussions, they can vote to pass bills that become new 'laws' here at school. To coincide with the upcoming

general election, we will be holding our own polling station on June 8th to elect next year's school 'MPs'.

Enterprise Week (5th – 8th June)

It's an exciting time here at Southwark as we are celebrating our 130th birthday! During the week commencing 5th June, the whole school will be taking part in our yearly Enterprise Week where the theme will be 'Southwark through the ages!' Each year group has been assigned a different part of history stretching right back to the 1880's working up to the present day. On Thursday 8th June, we hope the pupils can come into school dressed in clothes from their era. You should have received a letter about this – please ask your class teacher if you are unsure! You will then have the opportunity to visit our Enterprise Fair (3:15pm – 4:15pm on Thursday, 8th June) and buy some of the fantastic products the children have made! We hope you can join us on this special day!

Summer term dates

5th – 8th June - Enterprise Week (130 Year Celebrations)

8th June - Enterprise Fair (3:15pm – 4:15pm)

8th June - Parent Council meeting (2:00pm – 3:00pm)

20th June - Reception White Post Farm visit

21st – 23rd June - Year 3 residential

22nd June - class photographs (not Year 3)

26th June - class photographs (Year 3)

26th June - Year 1/2 sports day (am)

27th June - Year 3/4 sports day (am)

28th June - Year 5/6 sports day (am)

29th June - Nursery sports day (am)

30th June - Reception sports day (am)

4th July - Teeth Team dental visit

6th July - Class Swap (pm)

7th July - Reports out to parents

12th July - Optional parent evening

12th July - Y1-Y2 transition event

13th July - Y3-Y4 transition event

18th July - Whole school performances (am+pm)

19th July - Whole school performance (am)

19th July - School Concert (pm)

20th July - Year 4 Graduation (9.15am)

20th July - Year 5 Graduation (2.15pm)

24th July - Year 6 Graduation (3.30pm)

Tuesday 25th July - Enterprise Week treat (am)

Thank you for your continued support. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's academic progress or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact school through your child's class teacher, Hub Assistant Head or via the school office.

Mr Skirton – Head of School