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Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome back everyone after the Half Term Break

The second half of the Spring Term is going to be a really busy and exciting one, read on .....

### Book Fair



We begin with the book fair starting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February through to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017. You can **also pay by phone, ask for a phone payment slip at the book fair.** A book fair leaflet was distributed to children this week detailing the books on sale.

Alongside books we are also selling **Comic Relief Red Noses for £1 each.**

### World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Shakespeare Dress-up Day



This year's World Book Day is a Shakespeare themed dress-up day. We texted parents before the half term break so

that you would have plenty of time to put your costumes together!



Throughout this half term the children will be learning all sorts of facts about the Shakespearean era. On top of



that we have the Museum of London coming in on World Book Day to run 2 'Shakespeare in

London' sessions for Reception to Yr6 children. There is a Globe Theatre trip for the Years 3-6 classes on 14<sup>th</sup> March. The Reception to Year 2 classes will be treated to a performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream by Action Info on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Finally, there are the children's own renditions of Shakespearean plays for parents in the last two weeks of term. Please see Diary Dates.

### Ocean Maths Workshops for Year 2 Parents and Children



**OCEAN MATHS**  
Year 2 Workshops

2 Oak - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017  
 2 Maple - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
 From 9:10 to 10:10 - Lower Hall

Join your child learn Maths in a fun and enjoyable way

All you have to do is come along to the workshop and take part in the activities and maths games with your child. It is a wonderful chance to learn how Maths is taught in school and how you can support your child at home.

**Free tea and cake after the workshop**  
 Stay on and have a chat with staff about your child's Maths.

**We appreciate your support**



## Parents' Open Afternoons

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017**  
**3.30pm-7.00pm**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**  
**3.30pm-6.00pm**

The Spring Term Open Afternoons are an opportunity for you to find out how your child has been progressing in school.

Appointments will be available to book online via the Parents Evening System from 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. Parents will receive a text reminder closer to the time.

Class teachers look forward to meeting **every** child's parent during the Open Afternoons



**Friday**  
**24 March**

Yes, another chance to **dress up**, this time to the theme of '**Make your Laugh Matter**'. Looking forward to seeing some really funny outfits. We have acquired a limited number of Red Noses which will be on sale at the Book Fair.

**Staff will be out in force on that day collecting your £1 donations.**

## Farrukh Dhondy visits Year 6

Last half term the Year 6 were very honoured to receive a visit from Farrukh Dhondy, an Indian-born British writer and activist. He came to talk to the children about his past and what it was like growing up in the UK in the 60s and 70s. He came to the UK as an English Teacher and later followed his passion for writing. He talked to the children about race relations and his work as an activist. Many of his books and plays cover this topic. The children were incredibly interested and asked some very good questions about racism, how and why he became a writer and tips on how to write.



## Athlete's Visit – Darius Knight

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February we were delighted to welcome Darius Knight, GB Table Tennis star. He spent the morning doing circuit training with each class. The children and staff loved it.



## The Daily Mile

1 Sycamore and 3 Aspen have been taking part in the Daily Mile which is a fun run around the playground straight after morning registration. Studies have shown that this activity helps children develop, concentrate and feel healthy right from the beginning of the school day.

We have also managed to make it in to the paper doing the Daily Mile this month (p. 7 on the second link)

<http://news.hackney.gov.uk/children-go-the-extra-mile-with-new-health-initiative/>

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/media/8280/Hackney-Today-issue-396-13-February-2017/pdf/HT396>

## School Uniform

Sir Thomas Abney is a Uniform wearing school and all children from Reception to Year 6 are expected to come to school every day in a full school uniform. Nursery children are welcome to wear the uniform as well.

We have noticed that quite a few children wear jogging bottoms or jeans to school with their polo shirt and school sweatshirt/fleece. **Children must only wear dark grey trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafores with their Polo shirt and sweatshirt/fleece.** These are available at most high street supermarkets and clothes shops which stock school uniform.

All children should also **bring** (not wear) a full PE Kit – plain white T-shirt, navy blue jogging bottoms or shorts and trainers or plimsolls to school on the days that they have PE or Games lessons. The PE kit is a health and safety requirement. Children change in and out of their PE Kit in school.

## Update on Essential Roof Works

We would like to apologise for the ongoing presence of the Heras fencing in the FS and KS1

playgrounds. Hackney Council had assured us that the works to the roof would have been completed during the half term break, however, they encountered some technical problems. They are liaising closely with the school to bring about a speedy resolution.

## Congestion on Fairholt Road

We ask parents to walk their children to school where possible. We are very pleased that the vast majority of our children either walk, cycle or scoot in to school. For those who do drive please adhere to the parking restrictions, avoiding the zigzag and yellow lines. We would suggest parking a little distance away from the school and walking the rest of the way.

## Safety around Personal Possessions

We would like to urge parents to ensure their children are aware of safety of personal possessions outside of home and school. It is very important that children do not take their phones and wallets/purses out when walking down the road. In a recent incident an adult nearly had their phone taken out of their hand by some youths on scooters as they sped by.

## Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers again this year. In previous years these have provided us with additional PE and Playtime equipment. So start collecting everyone and don't forget to put them in the collection box in the school office.

### Family Activities

January – March 2017

Free / Drop in / Suitable for ages 5 – 11

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#### Living in the Map

Saturday 28 January 10.30 – 12.00  
13.00 – 14.30

Create a giant 3D map using sculpture and drawing, and transform the Learning Centre into a city of roads and houses.

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#### Family Day: Festival of Maps

Saturday 25 February 12.00 – 16.00

Join us for a fun and creative family day inspired by our exhibition, *Maps and the 20th Century: Drawing the Line*.

In partnership with Camden Family Learning, Frank Baines School for Deaf Children and The British Museum.

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#### Play on Words

Saturday 25 March 10.30 – 12.00  
13.00 – 14.30

Play with words and performance in this creative workshop. Families will have the chance to print, collage, write and make.

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#### Family Trails

Pick-up an activity trail to explore the Library building or our *Maps and the 20th Century: Drawing the Line* exhibition.

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**Quentin Blake: The Roald Dahl Centenary Portraits**

Open until 21 May 2017

Happy 100th birthday Roald Dahl! To mark this phizz-whizzing anniversary, Sir Quentin Blake has drawn special portraits of some of the most celebrated characters from Dahl's stories.

[Second Floor Gallery](#)

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**Keep In Touch**  
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The British Library  
 96 Euston Road London NW1 2DB

King's Cross St Pancras and Euston  
 Bus routes 10, 30, 39, 73, 91, 205, 390 and 476 pass the building, along Euston Road.

The family programme is generously funded by John Lyon's Charity and The Sackler Trust, providing opportunities for children to access and engage in creative educational activities.

**JOHN LYON'S CHARITY**

[www.bl.uk/events/family-events](http://www.bl.uk/events/family-events)

Cover illustration © John Owen

Term Dates		
HOLIDAY	BREAK UP	RETURN
Easter Holidays	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017 at 1.00pm <i>PM Nursery &amp; After-school Twilight club are closed</i>	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017
Summer Half Term Break	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
Summer Holidays	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 1.00pm <i>PM Nursery &amp; After-school Twilight club are closed</i>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
Please check future newsletters for updated dates		

## Diary Dates for Spring Term 2017

<b>TRIP – Reception Classes</b>	<b>Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2017</b>	<b>Natural History Museum</b>	
Scholastic Book Fair	Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb to Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2017	3.15-4.00pm in the KS1 Foyer	
<b>TRIP – Year 3</b>	<b>Tue 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017</b>	<b>Science Museum</b>	
World Book Day	Thu 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2017	Shakespeare Dress-up Day – Shakespeare in London shows for KS1 and KS2	
De-Stressing Relaxation session for Parents/Carers	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar 2017	9.00-10.15am – Sign in at the school office	
2 Oak Ocean Maths Workshop	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar 2017	Parents are invited to join their child in a fun and hands on Maths workshop. Learn how to help your child learn Maths.	
Shakespeare Performance for Reception and KS1	Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by Action Info	
2 Maple Ocean Maths Workshop	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	Parents are invited to join their child in a fun and hands on Maths workshop. Learn how to help your child learn Maths.	
De-Stressing Relaxation session for Parents/Carers	Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	9.00-10.15am – Sign in at the school office	
<b>TRIP – Years 3-6</b>	<b>Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017</b>	<b>Globe Theatre including workshop</b>	
Headteacher's Surgery	Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	2-3pm – please make an appointment via the school office if you would like to talk to the Headteacher about anything.	
Happy Puzzle Challenge Day – Years 3-6	Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	Details to be confirmed	
Parents' Open Afternoon	Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	3.30pm-7.00pm - Online booking will be available from 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2017	
De-Stressing Relaxation session for Parents/Carers	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	9.00-10.15am – Sign in at the school office	
Year 5 Cycle Training	w/b 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	5 day Level 2 cycle training for up to 14 year 5 children – letters to be distributed shortly	
<b>TRIP – Year 1</b>	<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017</b>	<b>KS1 LSO Schools Concert at the Barbican Centre</b>	
Year 4 Production of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'	Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	2.45pm in the MUGA – Parents of Year 4 are invited to attend	
Year 3 Production of Shakespeare's 'As you like it'	Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2017	9.00am in the MUGA – Parents of Year 3 are invited to attend	
Parents' Open Afternoon	Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2017	3.30pm-6.00pm - Online booking will be available from 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2017	
Year 2 Production of Shakespeare's 'Midsummer Night's Dream'	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2017	9.00am in the MUGA – Parents of Year 2 are invited to attend	
<b>TRIP – Ukulele children</b>	<b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2017</b>	<b>Ukulele Festival at Gainsborough Primary School</b>	
Year 6 Production of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'	Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar 2017	2.45pm in the MUGA – Parents of Year 6 are invited to attend	
Comic Relief – Red Nose Day Charity Event	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	£1 donation for dressing up to 'Make your Laugh Matter'	
De-Stressing Relaxation session for Parents/Carers	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	9.00-10.15am – Sign in at the school office	
<b>TRIP – Year 3</b>	<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017</b>	<b>KS2 LSO Schools Concert at the Barbican Centre</b>	
'Keeping it Cool' theatre performance for KS2	Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2017	Details coming soon	
De-Stressing Relaxation session for Parents/Carers	Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2017	9.00-10.15am – Sign in at the school office	
<i>Events/Activities for children in school</i>	<i>Events to which parents are invited</i>	<i>Off-site Activities</i>	<i>Closures</i>