

Friday 24th January 2020

### Year 1



We have just started reading *Toys in Space* by Mini Grey. It is all about what happens when toys are left out in the garden overnight. We had fun in DT this week making a puppet of one of the characters, Hoctopize. He is an alien who had been collecting a thousand toys from Earth. But the gang of toys in the story found out why and managed to help him.

### Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about Florence Nightingale in Topic this term. We have been looking at all the amazing things she did in her life and the students have been captivated by her dedication to making positive changes to the hospitals she worked in. The Year 2's are all very excited for the Florence Nightingale class trip on Monday the 3rd February!



### Year 3

Every Thursday, our marvellous music teacher Ms Fortey has been teaching the children how to play the recorder. We can now play "Mary had a Little Lamb" and "Abie's Blues". We've also been learning to sing (accompanied by some energetic dancing!) a medley of songs from the previous century. In the coming weeks, we will be starting to practice for our annual Big Sing and recorder performance. We will keep you updated with dates and times.



### Year 4



The year 4's have been developing their swimming skills over the past term and most children have graduated to the big pool. Well done! No more tippy toe touching! They've been practising kicking with straight legs and strong strokes with their arms. For those children still in the little pool keep up the hard work and you'll be in the big pool in no time! Your swimming coaches are all very proud.

### Year 5



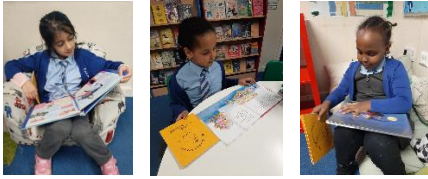
Over the last two weeks, Year 5 Earth have been completing recycling around the school. They are showing great respect and care for their school environment and the wider community.

### Year 6



Year 6 have put the pens down and turned to just speaking and listening to develop their oracy skills. In groups, they have developed podcasts and radio adverts. These were created based on their learning in topic, science and English. The children enjoyed these activities and worked so well together to produce their final pieces. We saw engaged and enthusiastic talent and may have some podcast hosts or radio DJ's amongst us! Well done to everybody. Please watch our website for these links and you can listen for yourself!

## KS1 English



Children in Years 1 and 2 have been visiting the school library every week. They have been choosing books from a variety of genres including fiction (longer, shorter reads, picture books, non-fiction, poetry and board books. Please encourage your child to share their book with you.

## KS2 English

Reading for Pleasure- tube map approach  
Children are enjoying reading across a range of genres and have developed great confidence in identifying book genres. **Library visits will focus more on the genres** and teachers will be encouraging children to read as much as they can across the tube map. Please encourage your child to tick their tube stops as they read. They can be found in the back of their yellow books.

Some children in Year 6 have shared their books and their progress on their maps so far:

- The Children of Willesden Lane- Genre: Real Life & historical
- The Great Space Explorer- Genre: Historical Fiction
- The World's Worst Teachers! Genre: Adventure
- Why must I take exercise? Genre: Real Life
- Antony & Cleopatra- Genre: Historical Fiction

## Reading Buddy

Thank you for your patience whilst we have been working to improve the speed and performance with Oxford Reading Buddy. If you were previously experiencing issues with the loading times of the eBooks and the logging in process, we are pleased to inform you that you should now see an improvement. If you have any questions, you can view the parent support site: <https://support.oxfordreadingbuddy.com/parent-support/> or please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Kirby through our school email.

## Inclusion

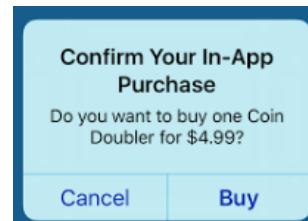
**British Dyslexia**  
Association

Dyslexia is often identified in primary school, however, some people's coping strategies are so good that the dyslexic difficulties don't become apparent until much later, perhaps at secondary school or even in university or the workplace.

The first step as a parent is to gain a good understanding of what dyslexia is and how it can affect your child. You can find out more about dyslexia and co-occurring conditions on the following website: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/is-my-child-dyslexic>

## Online Safety

### Loot boxes and in-app purchases



These can be found within the world of online gaming. Whilst the game may be free to purchase and play, as you progress, the game will offer in-app purchases that provide equipment and enhancements to your character. Whilst these may not cost very much initially the longer you stay in the game, the more purchases you will be offered.

Some video games offer "loot boxes" which can be seen as similar to football stickers or Lego mini-figures in foil packaging. You don't know what you get until you have paid for the "loot box". You may be lucky and get a rare item that has high value in the game. More commonly, you will get a low-value item. This has the potential to encourage users to keep buying "loot boxes" until they have the desired items. Microsoft, Sony and Nintendo have said they will disclose the odds of getting rare items in your loot boxes.

Consider how whether you allow your child to make in-app purchases. If you do, you may want to consider using a pre-paid card that has a set limit. Either way, it is a chance to talk to your child about how they may wish to spend their money, what represents good value and what can be considered as poor value.

Dates for your diary		
9:00 am	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Extraordinary DSA Meeting Please attend!
All Day	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
All Week	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half Term
All Day	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Sports Relief Week
7:00 pm	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	DSA – Comedy Night. It's going to be brilliant! Professional Comedians. Tickets are on sale.
3:40pm -5:00pm	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening
3:40pm - 7:05pm	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening
9:15 am	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Year 6 Open Classrooms Year 6 parents are welcome to visit their child's class and share in their learning.
9:15 am	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Open Classrooms Year 4 parents are welcome to visit their child's class and share in their learning.
9:15 am	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Open Classrooms Year 1 parents are welcome to visit their child's class and share in their learning.
9:15 am	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Open Classrooms Year 5 parents are welcome to visit their child's class and share in their learning.
9:30 am	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole School Assembly at St Mary's Church. <b>This is not a parent event.</b> Parent volunteers are welcome. Please leave your name at the office so that Mrs Nicholas can

 @Dwaterw3

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