



in partnership with Blanche Nevile

Headteacher's Newsletter May 2010

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing with news of the many events which have taken place since the Easter holiday, and to provide you with diary dates for the final part of the school year. As you will see the school is as busy as ever with many trips, visits and events, with many more planned...

London Zoo



As part of their topic about teeth and eating, Year 3 paid a visit to London Zoo to study the teeth of animals. The children were able to examine first hand the teeth in a range of animal skulls, from which they were able to work the kinds of food that each animal would eat. They then took the opportunity to look (from a safe distance) at the animals to work out if they were correct.

Guitar Concert

On Tuesday, 4JS put on a hugely enjoyable guitar concert in which they shared the fun that they are having through learning,



playing and performing together. The children are now into the third term of the whole class instrument tuition scheme, which has been funded by money raised by the PSA. The programme has exceeded all expectations and plans have been made to continue the programme over the coming years. Tuesday's concert certainly left its audience inspired, and excited about what lies in store.

Lauderdale house



As part of their history topic 'Children in World War 2', Year 4 visited Lauderdale House in Waterlow Park to find out more about how it might have felt to be an evacuee. This workshop was part of Lauderdale House's project 'History in the House'. The children got to explore a range of artefacts that an evacuee might have taken with them to the countryside, and raised some fascinating discussion about whether children should have been allowed to stay in the city during the blitz.

Assemblies



On Monday the children in 3EE followed up their zoo visit with a lovely assembly telling the story of their day out – and explained the reasons why carnivores, herbivores, omnivores, insectivores and folivores all have very different sets of teeth.

The week before, 1SM performed an assembly in which they retold the story of Handa's Surprise. Set in the African savannah, the class put on a very accomplished show that was a delight to watch.

Children's Centre Dads' Day

A busy few weeks in the Children's Centre culminated on Saturday with our very successful Dads' Day event. The rain threatened but just about held off and 80 local families braved the dark clouds and the cold to come along. The ponies, bouncy castle and toddler football in the playground went down very well with the children and the BBQ was enjoyed by all (If you missed it don't worry, Jo and Jen will be back behind the grill for the school summer fair!). Inside the centre there was face painting, storytelling, singing, cake decorating, messy play and a giant artwork. At 2pm everyone was given a pot of bubbles for a mass bubble blowing celebration; it was a fantastic sight.



The Haringey funded event was designed to highlight the role of fathers and to encourage local dads to bring their families to the Children's Centre. It was lovely to see so many dads with their kids (as well as all the mums and grandparents!). One dad wrote:

"Thank you for a great Dads' Day, so much to see and do. What a wonderful resource you have built here, so good for our community. I look forward to coming back again and again."

Children Centre Activities

We still have our baby weighing and health visitor clinic on Tuesday mornings, stay and plays most days, parenting classes, Dads' Club on Wednesday mornings, Twins' Club on Wednesday afternoons and a new group called Allergykidz one Friday afternoon a month. Allergykidz has been set up for pre-school children with multiple, severe allergies and is a safe, friendly and supportive playgroup for children who have never been able to socialise in this way before. If you know of any families who would benefit from this group please let them, and we know!

For more information on any of our classes and activities please drop in to the centre or call us on 020 3213 0004.

Cricket Club trip to Lords



Children who signed up to after-school cricket club had an early season treat with a trip to Lords to watch Middlesex take on Gloucestershire in the County Championship. The cricket club has now started with nearly 30 attending and it is hoped that a cricket team will be representing the school in tournaments later in the summer.

Year 3 Football

Congratulations to the Year 3 football teams who performed so well against St Michael's school earlier in the term. For many of the team this was their first real football match, and putting on the new Highgate Primary kit caused great excitement. The 'A' team were very unlucky not to come away with a win after having much of the play, whilst the 'B' team fought back from a goal behind to claim a well deserved draw. Thanks to Stuart for organising the matches and all the parents who supported the teams so enthusiastically.

Highgate Woods



As a school we are incredibly lucky to have Highgate Woods on our doorstep, a resource which we are making increasingly good use of. A number of classes are now having regular PE sessions on the field and we are developing excellent links with the park's education team.

This week it was Reception's turn to explore the woods, with a morning out that included a minibeast hunt on which our young explorers found caterpillars hanging from trees, centipedes

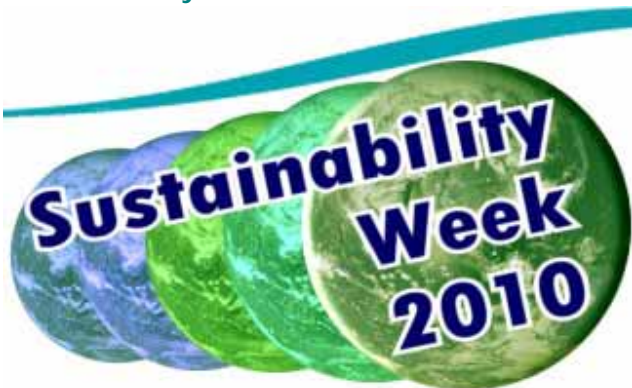
hiding under logs, snail trails on tree trunks and evidence of bats.



Hampstead Heath

Children in Year 4 took part in a range of environmental activities on Hampstead Heath last week, including pond dipping and classification of the living things they found.

Sustainability Week



Plans are well underway for our Sustainability Week which is taking place at school during the week starting 14th June. This event will be an opportunity for children to explore green issues through a range of activities incorporating science, geography, PE and the arts. Please contact either Mags or Jen if you are willing to volunteer your services to support or lead an activity during the week.

PSA News

This is a busy time for our PSA, with some ambitious events planned for the final half term

Plans are underway for One World Evening, which is being held in the hall on Thursday 27th May between 6pm to 8pm. The PSA are finalising the list programme for the evening, but one thing is definite - the famous Highgate Primary One World buffet, with international food brought in by parents, will be fantastic. Please be sure to book the date – tickets will be on sale in the playground from next week.

The other important event is of course the Summer Festival on Saturday 19th June between 12 noon and 3pm. The theme this year will be based on football's World Cup in South Africa, and

a full programme of entertainment, food, music and fun is promised.

Fair Funding Consultation

The DCSF has opened its consultation on changing the funding formula for schools, which gives a chance to put right the under funding of Haringey schools. At present Haringey schools receive considerable less funding than schools in neighbouring boroughs, including Camden, less than a mile away.

Parents are urged to lend their support to this campaign by writing to Ian McVicar, Funding and Technology Unit, DCSF, 3rd Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT

Consultation documents are available at:
www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations

Template letters are available at:
www.fairdealforharingeychildren.org



Children from Blanche Nevile at Kew Gardens

Looking forward to summer fun at Highgate Primary

With best wishes

William

School Dates for your diary

The term dates for the rest of the year, and for September, are published below:

Friday 14 th May	5NL class assembly 3.00 pm
Monday 17 th May	Year 6 photographs
Wednesday 19 th May	Anthony Browne visit (Years 1, 2, 3 and 4)
Thursday 20 th May	5LB class assembly
Thursday 27 th May	One World Evening
Friday 28 th May	1EP class assembly 3.00 pm
Friday 21 st May	Year 4 cake sale
w/c 31 st May	Half-Term week
Monday 7 th June	Children return to school
Tuesday 8 th June	Year 5 Science Museum Trip
Thursday 10 th June	Class Photographs
Friday 11 th June	RLM class assembly
w/c 14 th June	School Sustainability Week
Wednesday 16 th June	2RV Inspire Event
Thursday 17 th June	2LG Inspire Event
Friday 18 th June	RTB class assembly
Saturday 19 th June	Summer Fair
Tuesday 22 nd June	Reception Sports Day
Wednesday 23 rd June	Infant Sports Day
Thursday 24 th June	Junior Sports Day
Friday 25 th June	4MK Class Assembly
Friday 2 nd July	Year 2 Performance
Wednesday 7 th July	Nursery PM Inspire Event
Thursday 8 th July	Nursery AM Inspire Event
Friday 9 th July	4JS Class Assembly
Tuesday 13 th July	School Open Evening
Friday 16 th July	Year 6 leaver's performance
Friday 23 rd July	Year 6 leaver's assembly Term ends
Thursday 2 nd September	Children return to school

I did say it was a busy term!



Blanche Nevile Newsletter



Guitar concert

Our Year 4 guitar concert was a great success Thank you to those parents who could attend. We are delighted that this inclusion activity is going so well. All of the children involved are improving their skills and making great progress.

Trips

On Monday 10th May, Anna Kinsella's class went to Kew Gardens with a few Highgate friends to support their topic work. They saw all sorts of strange and wonderful plants, and went on a tree top walk.

New children

We have had a many visits from families interested in our school recently and we are delighted to welcome Judy to Chloe/Alison's class and Zakariya to Anna Kinsella's class.

Best wishes,

SCMLay

Sarah McLay