



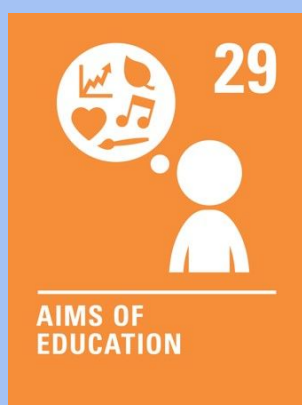
Reaching Out

January 2025

In January our Skill of the Month was Problem Solving. Next month, it will be Staying Positive.



January's Right of the Month: Article 29 The right to become the best you can be.



Key Dates

Please check the **school calendar** on the website for upcoming events.



January may be coming to a close, but the year is already off to a great start! In this newsletter, you can read all about our Digital Warrior's trip to the **Bett Show**, a visit from author Leigh Hobbs, special visitors from University College London, the number facts and spelling bee and many more exciting events!

We are looking forward to **Safer Internet Day 2024** and to sharing the children's learning with you on Walk-in Friday on 14th February. Please join Toni, Computing Lead and Corinne, Designated Safeguarding Lead for their top tips on keeping children safe online. See the weekly bulletin for further details.

Also coming up this term, we have many events, including class assemblies, a book fair and more parent workshops. You can see the list of events for parents on page 11. Our next **Coffee and Conversation** will be on Friday 28th February. This is an informal drop in and a chance for parents to meet one another as well as have a chat and get to know a couple of members of staff - we hope to see you there!

The children have been working hard on their **problem solving** skills. Have a look at our essential skills page and have a go at finding solutions for this month's skill challenge.

Finally, huge thanks to the **F&SA** for organising the **Quiz Night** on the 7th February as well as setting up a fantastic auction! Thank you for your continued support helping us raise funds to replace the windows on the southside of the building.

With best wishes

Sophie Gavalda

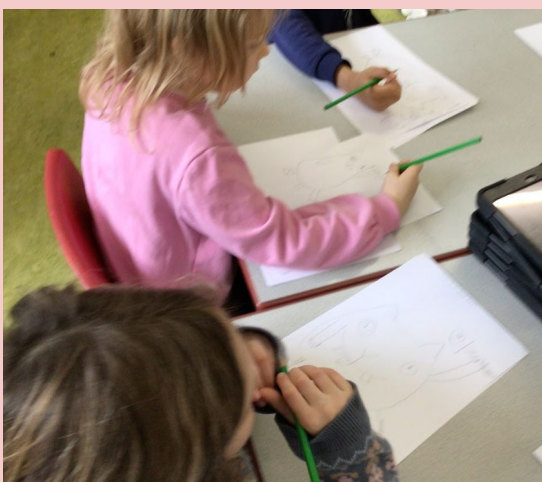
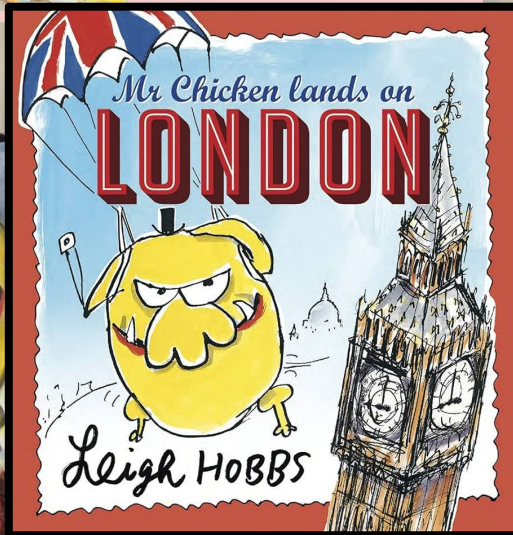
Head Teacher

REACH for your future **Respect Enterprise Ambition Confidence Happiness**

As a GOLD Rights Respecting School we value learning ABOUT, THROUGH and FOR the rights enshrined in the UNCRC. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our pupils.

Year 2 Author visit

As part of our learning in English, we had a special visit from the Australian author Leigh Hobbs who wrote the Mr Chicken book series. Leigh gave us a masterclass on how to draw the famous characters in his books: Mr Chicken and Old Tom. It was fantastic! Take a look at our photos!



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You could save hundreds with this offer.



FREE MARKET VALUATION

Planning to sell or let your property?

David Astburys offer a free, no-obligation market valuation to help you get the best possible price.

*An average of £4000 to the school per transaction

SPREAD THE WORD!

Friends, family, and neighbours can enjoy these offers too.



FIND OUT MORE



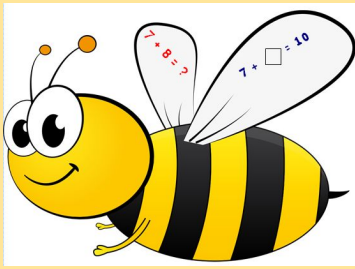
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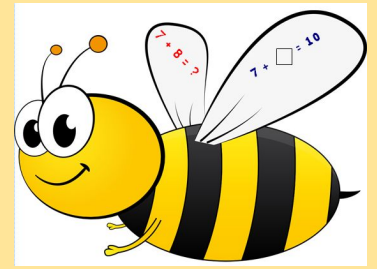
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EXCLUSIVE OFFERS FOR THE WILLIAM TYNDALE COMMUNITY



Number Facts Bee for Years 1 to 3



On Thursday 16th January, we held the Number Facts Bee for years 1-3. I was so impressed with the calibre of participants and the enthusiasm of the audience to support their peers. Each class had held an in class competition to choose 2 children who would like to compete in the assembly. It is quite daunting standing in front of almost 120 children so I congratulate all the competitors for their confidence. In Year 1, the questions included numbers facts to 5 and to all the numbers up to 10. The children were so strong at answering the questions in their own time - $9 - 4$, $6 + ? = 8$ - that we needed to include an element of competition - who answered fastest. Our runners up were Mya, Saya and Zachary (Cherry) and the eventual winner was Zachary (Bonsai).

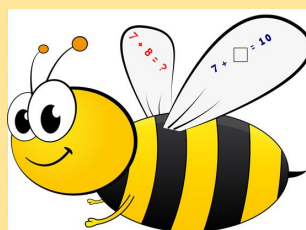
In Year 2, the competition was also extremely tight and the children showed a good knowledge of number bonds to 20, missing number questions ($13 + ? = 18$) and adding by crossing the 10s boundary ($6+7$). The winner in year 2 - was Adriano and the runners up were Evelyn, Dori, Olivia.

In Year 3 we moved into the times tables, where the children showed really strong knowledge of the multiplication and division facts that they have been learning. The competition was separated by the tiniest of hairs as children answered on the buzzer questions within nano seconds of each other. I was extremely impressed with their knowledge and with the way they dealt with both winning and losing. In Year 3 the winner was Yuguo, and Jules, Akira and Hugo W were the runners up.

Well done to everyone that took part whether in class or in the assembly. Please continue to practise your Number Facts.

If you would like some **resources** to support practising these at home, please look at these worksheets: [Year 1](#), [Year 2 Number facts to 20](#), [Year 2 number facts to 10, 20 and 100](#).

Bea Mayer
Maths Lead



Year 5 Ragged School Visit and Diversity Role Models Workshop

Our class went to the Ragged School Museum on the 21st January. All of our classmates were very excited to get there. Our first part of the day at the museum was when we went into the Victorian classroom. There was an actor pretending to be a Victorian teacher, she was very strict but we knew it was just acting. A bit later, we went downstairs to have lunch.

After that, we went upstairs to see what would happen at a poor Victorian family's house.

They showed us how they would do things at a small Victorian house without all the technology we use today. When we were walking back everyone was talking about how amazing and incredible it was.



- Miles

Diversity Role Models

On Monday 13 January, Year 5 took part in a workshop about diversity. We were talking about a famous poet. We were also talking about upstanders and bystanders, how we were different and our rights. I enjoyed the workshop because it was talking about our differences and how we are unique. We were having fun writing our own sayings and drawing a little picture that we could use to share positive messages about diversity.

- Asrar

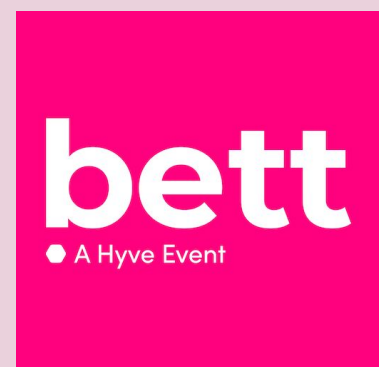
Who are Diversity Role Models?

Diversity Role Models actively seeks to embed inclusion and empathy in the next generation. Their vision is a world where everyone embraces diversity and can thrive. This will help create a world where future generations embrace, accept and support difference. Their mission is to create an education system in which every young person will know they are valued and supported, whoever they are.

Digital Warriors Trip to BETT



Every year, our Digital Warriors attend the BETT conference at the Excel Centre. The children has a lot of fun exploring new technology, talking to leading experts and thinking about ways they can bring technology into our school to benefit everyone. The children especially enjoyed the VR experience, trying our some ESports and using adobe AI software to create images!



Visitors from UCL

On 24th January, we were visited by some **MA students from University College London**, along with their professor. They came to see all we do to support children's reading and writing.

The **Dyslexia Ambassadors** gave them a wonderful tour of our school and showed just some of the things we use to support our reading and writing such as mind mapping, speech to text on chromebooks and Nessy. They also saw some ambassadors doing a myth busting activity about dyslexia and were shown ways we use our Skills Builder skills across the curriculum.

With a presentation from **Michelle (AHT)** on our English Curriculum, along with a visit to **Daily Supported Reading** in Year 1 and a **Reading Recovery** lesson, it's safe to say our visitors were suitably impressed and took plenty away with them to inform their future practice.



London's Global University



UCL

Dear William Tyndale School Team,

I just wanted to extend a massive thank you to Claire Oliver, along with all the staff, pupils, and parents of William Tyndale School, for providing the warmest welcome and a fantastic day for the students from UCL's MA SPLD Dyslexia and MA Supportive and Inclusive Education (Specific Learning Difficulties route) programmes.

As the world's top-ranked university for education, our group—comprising students from around the globe, including Spain, Honduras, and China—was incredibly fortunate to participate in this visit.

A special highlight was the opportunity to be guided by some of your amazing 'Dyslexia Ambassadors,' who shared the strategies used to support dyslexic pupils at your school. We were also privileged to observe lessons and attend insightful talks by Claire and your Literacy Leader and Reading Recovery teachers, who generously allowed us to view a session.

This unique visit to your dyslexia-friendly school and its exemplary practices is an invaluable experience for our students. It has become a cherished annual event, and we are honoured to celebrate the outstanding achievements of your school.

We are deeply grateful to Claire, the headteacher, and everyone at William Tyndale School for making this possible.

Best wishes

Liz.

Elisabeth Herbert

Twitter: @UclHerbert

Associate Professor (teaching): Department of Psychology and Human Development, UCL IOE.

(Pronoun: she/her.)

Personal Tutoring Departmental co-leader.

Programme Director/Module Leader/Lead AMBDA tutor, Masters in SpLD (Dyslexia) UCL IOE.

Programme SpLD route leader MA Special and Inclusive Education.

For course information please click on the links below:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/specific-learning-difficulties-dyslexia-ma>

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/special-and-inclusive-education-specific-learning-difficulties-ma>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwX3wZX22uMykaovCyS0S7X1gRstXd6Ac>



Year 3 and 4 Sportshall Athletics

Our Year 4 pupils had a fantastic time competing in the Sportshall Athletics Competition at Beacon High on Wednesday, 15th January. They showed great determination, teamwork, and enthusiasm as they took on a variety of track and field events, from relays to long jumps and speed bounces. Well done!



Year 5 and 6 Dodgeball

Our Year 5 and 6 dodgeball teams put on a fantastic display of skill, teamwork, and resilience at the Islington PESSPA Dodgeball Competition on Wednesday, 29th January, at Beacon High School. Competing against strong opposition, our pupils played with determination and enthusiasm, demonstrating excellent strategic play and sportsmanship.



After an intense series of matches, we are thrilled to announce that **William Tyndale finished in second place!** This is a brilliant achievement, and we couldn't be prouder of how our children represented the school.





Spelling Bee



On Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th January we held the annual spelling bee competition for children across the school.

The children competed to spell words from the National Curriculum list of spelling, as well as vocabulary learnt within specific subjects. As always, the level of knowledge around spellings was impressive! Gasps of awe were heard from the audience as particularly difficult words were spelt with confidence. The teamwork amongst the children was particularly noticeable and lots of competitors showed genuine pride for each other as they battled it out to become the Spelling Bee Champion.

Congratulations to all the children who took part in spelling rounds in the classroom. For the children who represented their class on the day, listed below with winners in bold, we are particularly thankful for being such wonderful spelling leaders.

Year 1: **Alexander** and Zachary

Year 2: Bella and **Henry**

Year 3: Rory and **Anvi**

Year 4: Lorenzo and **Aliyah**

Year 5: **Vita** and Lyra

Year 6: Jacob, Ola and **Anthony**

Every child who competed won a prize.



Skill of the Month

This month we have focused upon 'Problem Solving' in our classrooms and assemblies. Why not try to solve a problem at home and imagine different ways to solve it.

Consider this problem: *Imagine you and your friends or family are in a shrinking space.*

You need to:

1. Choose 2-3 people to join you.
2. Use a rope (or something similar) to make a shape on the floor that everyone can fit into.
3. Slowly shrink the space every 1-2 minutes.
4. Generate a range of solutions to figure out how to keep everyone within the shrinking boundaries.

Extension: Try again, but include more people in the shrinking circle!

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: What are the instructions?

Intermediate: How can you come up with lots of possible solutions?

Advanced: Why is it important to consider a range of solutions for problems?

Mastery: How might you choose between different solutions to a complex problem?



*“A problem is a chance for you
to do your best”
Duke Ellington*

Parent Workshops and Events Spring Term 2

RSE Year 6

Thursday 27th February at 3.40 pm in Aspen classroom

Year 6 parents are invited to attend this session. You will find out:

- The Relationships and Sex Education programme for this term.
- How we teach children in this area of the curriculum
- How you may further support these discussions

Please check your emails for more information closer to the event.

Please sign up using the following link [Year 6 RSE](#)



Coffee and Conversation

Friday 28th February at 9 am in the Meeting Room

Drop into our coffee morning for a hot drink and a chat with other parents and members of the school community. It is a relaxed gathering and an opportunity to meet other parents, carers and school staff.



Come and Learn about Science in Year 4

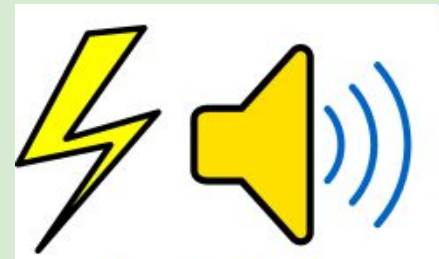
Friday March 7th at 9am Middle Floor Hall

Drop into a showcase science lesson in Year 4. You will find out:

- How teachers lead the children through a typical lesson
- The importance of balancing different types of scientific knowledge
- How children apply their understanding through practical activities

There will be an opportunity for you to join in with these activities and engage with the learning with your child.

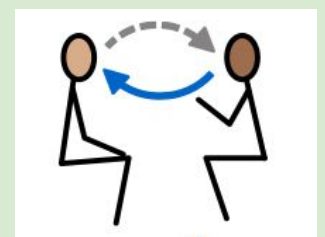
Please sign up using the following link [Year 4 Science](#)



Parent Information Conferences

Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th March

Talk to your child's class teacher about their progress and development to date. Meetings will last for 10 minutes and take place in your child's classroom.



Global Equalities Collective (GEC)

Friday 28th March at 9am in the Art Room

The GEC is committed to transforming the education system by promoting inclusivity and diversity. You will find out:

- What GEC is and why we are using it
- Actions we have taken so far
- Our plans for the future

Please sign up using the following link [Global Equalities Collective](#)



Keeping your Child Safe Online

One of our top priorities for our whole school community, is our children's mental health and wellbeing. There is more and more evidence showing the impact of screens on children. Please look at these resources to see how to support your child/ren online.:

If you haven't already done so, please make sure that you have Parental Controls on all your devices.

Get a step by step guide here: [Parental controls & privacy settings guides | Internet Matters](#)

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)



The infographic is titled 'ISLINGTON Digital Charter' and features the London coat of arms. It includes logos for 'Safer Internet Day' and 'Children's Commissioner Digital 5 A Day'. The 'Digital 5 A Day' logo is a circular pie chart with five segments: 'Be Mindful' (red), 'Connect' (purple), 'Be Active' (green), 'Get Creative' (yellow), and 'Give to others' (blue). The main text states: 'Islington wants to promote the safe, happy and creative use of technology. In consultation with our children, parents and staff we have developed our very own 'Digital Charter''. Below this are ten numbered tips, each with an icon and a colored background box.

1  **Mobile-free mealtimes**

2  **Real books at bedtime**

3  **Be kind online**

4  **Create, don't consume**

5  **Balance online and physical activity**

6  **Think before you share**

7  **If something upsets you, tell an adult**

8  **Age appropriate content only**

PUNCTUALITY and ATTENDANCE

Punctuality

Children are happier when they arrive punctually at school and their learning gets off to a fine start. We have many incentives to encourage children to arrive punctually, including certificates and medals.



Please remember:

- **The school gates open at 8.45am** and children are able to go straight to their classes.
- **School starts at 8.55am** but we give you a 5-minute grace period to account for exceptional circumstances; therefore, any child arriving at **or after 9am will be marked late.**

Timings for the end of the day will be as follows:

Nursery door will open at 2.50pm. (Children not collected by 3 will incur a charge.) **Reception** and **Year 1** doors will open at 3.25pm.

- **Year 2** line up outside the Reception play area at 3.30pm, flanking the fence in front of the hand washing trough, by the office as you come down the lane from Upper Street.
- **Years 3 – 6** will be brought down to the playground at 3.30pm. Please could parents wait near to where their child's class lines up, avoiding bottlenecking by the extension of the Morris Building. Children will not be dismissed as they come out and down the stairs – only from their line.
- **Any children not collected on time will be taken to Kids' Club where a charge will apply from 3.40pm.**

It is really important to a child's feeling of security that they are brought in regularly and that parents arrive and depart promptly once they are settled. Children who arrive late can become distressed and find it hard to settle to their activities. Again, at home time, please collect your child promptly as they can become very anxious if you are late.

Please find further information in the [Parent and Carer Handbook](#) on the school website.

Attendance

The school and Educational Welfare officers monitor attendance on a regular basis. We expect children to have **at least 95% attendance. If your child's attendance falls below 95% then the Educational Welfare Officer will contact you. A child is considered a persistent absentee once their attendance falls to 90%.**

Please let us know of any changes in your child's home life, routines or health that may affect their attendance or punctuality at school, so we can support you accordingly. If you would like any more details about punctuality and attendance, please see Penny in the school office.



What do I do if my child is sick?

1. If your child is sick please inform the school office on the first day of absence.
2. On your child's return to school please bring a note to the school office explaining why your child was absent. If your child is absent directly before or after a holiday you will need to bring in medical proof to support the absence.

We award children medals and badges for 100% attendance and punctuality over a term and for over the whole year. Well done and thank you to everyone who continue to help reduce our absences, cooperating with procedures required by the Department for Education (DfE).

What about medical appointments?

Please try to avoid making dental or medical appointments for your child during the school day; if an appointment is absolutely necessary please show your appointment card (preferably in advance) to the school office as evidence for this absence.

What if I need to apply for leave during term time?

Any leave of absence has to be applied for, four weeks in advance, using the appropriate forms from the school office; each case is reviewed individually but please be aware that absence will be authorised in only the most exceptional of circumstances. **Holidays during term time will never be authorised.**

Any unauthorised absence may result in an immediate penalty notice of £80 per parent per child from Islington's Educational Welfare Department.

Support Services

Corinne, Pastoral Lead, has collated some useful services available to parents. This is not an exhaustive list and do continue to contact the school if you require support.

Islington Bright Futures, Early Help 5-19 (school-age to 19 years)

<https://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/service.page?id=txWgdPi-Gz0>

Islington

Bright Start Family Support Service

Parents-to-be and parents and carers of children under 5 years

[Find Your Islington | Bright Start Family Support Service](#)



Islington

Benefits and Financial Support

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support>

Islington Parenting Programmes

[Parenting Programmes in Islington](#)

Support Numbers

Emergency Services

999

Islington Children's Social Care

020 7527 7400

Domestic Violence National Helpline

0808 200 247

NSPCC 0800 800 500

Childli

ne 0800 1111



“ERIC is the national charity dedicated to improving children’s bowel and bladder health.

Our mission is to reduce the impact of continence problems on children and their families.”

The website has lots of information about toileting issues such as toilet anxiety, potty training, bowel and bladder problems. It offers lots of practical advice around how to support your child, webinars and a HELPLINE.

www.eric.org.uk



Free helpline: 0808 801 0343 Mon to Thur, 10am - 2pm