

Reaching Out

Our Skill of the Month is



Speaking



Our Right of the Month is



Welcome to our October issue, full of news from a busy month! Here are just a few of the highlights:

Dyslexia Awareness Week and Dyslexia Friendly Re-accreditation

October has been a really exciting month for our school! Not only did it begin with Dyslexia Awareness Week, we were also re-accredited by the British Dyslexia Association as a Dyslexia Friendly School. So many have contributed to this wonderful achievement - particular thanks to **Claire Oliver** (Deputy Head) and **Peggy** (Reading Recovery Teacher) who lead this area. Read more below!

Visit from the Department for Education (DfE)

We were pleased to welcome representatives from the Department for Education who came to see the school, with a particular lens on our **Skills Builder** curriculum.

Parent Workshops in Autumn 2

The list of Parent Workshops for next half term is included in this newsletter. Do come along and learn about aspects of the school's curriculum to support your child/ren. Attendance has been lower than expected at recent parent workshops, so we are asking parents to indicate their intended attendance ahead of time using an online sign up link. Thank you!

New

Coffee

Morning

We are excited to introduce our new Coffee and Conversation initiative! Held every half term, this is a wonderful opportunity for parents and staff to connect. We invite you to join us at our next meeting on Friday 22nd November at 9am in Kids' Club.

I look forward to seeing you after the half term break for an exciting November ahead!

Best wishes

Sophie
Head Teacher

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

Key Dates

Please check the **school calendar** on the website for upcoming events. Click [here](#) to access it.



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.

www.williamtyndale-islington.co.uk

Thank you to those who came to our first Coffee and Conversation session in Kids' Club!

Our next **Coffee and Conversation** will be on **Friday 22nd November** at 9am. We hope to see you there!

Coffee and Conversation



Little Library Opening

Huge thanks to the F&SA for leading this community project. This space is designed to encourage a love of reading for all. Everyone can borrow and/or donate books.

A special thank you to the team of volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm in setting this up!



We have been reaccredited!



We are delighted to let you know that, following a recent submission of evidence we have been re-accredited by the British Dyslexia Association as a Dyslexia Friendly School. We will now hold this recognition for the next three years.

Here are just some of the wonderful comments we received about our practice:

'Clearly there is a high level of experience and expertise in relation to literacy learning difficulties and dyslexia support.'

'... intervention is tailored to meet the needs of learners with literacy difficulties including dyslexia.'

'The school has set up a system of Dyslexia Ambassadors – learners themselves share their lived experiences and promote awareness of dyslexia. This promotes an open approach to inclusivity and encourages equality of opportunity.'

'The school has cultivated a reputation of delivering effective dyslexia friendly practice within their community. Specialist staff are active members of the local dyslexia network.'

'The school is committed to supporting all learners and has significantly invested in developing a highly skilled staff who not only provide high quality learning opportunities but can effectively identify, diagnose and support learners with dyslexia. Learners are proud of their identity and are comfortable in sharing their lived experiences of dyslexia. Parents and carers are encouraged to engage with the school and are given strategies that will enable them to support their children at home. The school has worked hard to reach out to the wider community in order to share best practice.'

Dyslexia Awareness Week 2024



Our amazing Dyslexia Ambassadors kick-started Dyslexia Awareness Week 2024 (DAW24) by hanging posters and bunting around the school, displaying great skills in teamwork and leadership.



A few more Dyslexia Ambassadors, preparing to present an assembly raising awareness of dyslexia.

They are holding copies of their stories, created as part of part of British Dyslexia Association's 'Share your story for DAW24'.

See next page for some of our stories!



Dyslexia Awareness Week 2024 Stories



One summer's morning, I was sitting on my bed, on my computer, gobbling my red velvet cake, my bubble-gum ice-cream and my sweet popcorn. My windows were open and the sun's rays hit my bed. Then a big red button appeared, covering the screen. It said 'Press me'. I pressed it and ... it took me to this 'Popcorn Beach'. The beach had tropical flowers, made of candy. The sand was made of lemon yellow flavoured popping candy. The sparkling blue water was actually blueberry juice. The beach was covered in tropical trees but the leaves were made out of popcorn. The powers of the popcorn are: to be invisible; to be small; or to be big.

All of a sudden, a good witch with a red hat and cloak appeared from the blueberry juice ocean. She said "My name is Angel". She explained that there was a good side and a bad side and that a bad witch with a green hat and cloak had taken over half of the beach. She was called Devil. The other side was not like the good beautiful side. It was always nighttime. "I need you to help me save Popcorn Beach" she begged. I agreed because she gave me a free pass to come to Popcorn Beach whenever I wanted.

Angel gave me the chance to cross the barrier between her side and Devil's side. A yummy wave took me to the bad side. From underneath the inky water, the bad witch appeared. Quickly, I took a rope out of my bag and I lassoed the witch and threw popcorn in her mouth. The nasty witch shrank, saying "Arghh" Then a fish gobbled her up because it thought it was popcorn.

I woke up on my bed and it was nighttime. It was a crazy dream... but there in my bag was Devil's green witch's hat...had it all been real?

Skylar (Year 5)



Once upon a time I was looking at the computer on my bed, when I found a free trip to a space station. I clicked on the advert and amazingly I was chosen for the trip. The following Monday, I got on a state-of- the art rocket all the way to the space station. But before we could land, the captain needed to make a quick stop-over to find some resources and fuel. But unfortunately, it was infested with aliens. The green aliens had three eyes, four ears, 8 horns placed around the face and an antenna. The aggressive aliens took us on their UFO to their alien lair. They put us in prison. They left me there for over a week. Eventually, they asked me what I had to offer in order to be released. They said "If you don't have anything to offer, you will be terminated and thrown into outer space where a black hole will consume you".

I had nothing. Hope was fading... until I remembered that I had some spare biscuits in my bag and resources to make good biscuits: the 'Biscuit Maker 1000'. I made a big batch and the aliens tasted them. Their 3 eyes lit up with delight and their antennae's started jiggling! They smiled. And smiled. Soon there was an alien party.

They really liked them and kept their promise. They delivered me back to Earth. Phew!

Isaac (Year 5)



Once upon a time there was a boy named Bob. Bob loved playing on his computer and building houses out of Lego.. One sunny morning, Bob was on his laptop, playing Minecraft, when a tab popped up saying 'Free Cake - Click on this button'. Bob remembered his teacher telling the class never to click on pop-up tabs unless an adult tells you it's safe - but he couldn't resist. He loved cake so much! When Bob clicked on the button, it transported him to an abandoned beach.

A witch appeared and handed over a slice of delicious looking chocolate cake. Bob ate the cake - it was the most delicious chocolate cake he had ever tasted. But, as he took the last bite he started immediately feeling very faint. He fell on the floor. He screamed 'Help... Someone... I think I'm dying!

An beautiful angel appeared and said 'I'll help but on one condition...you must never click on pop up tabs again, unless your parents give you consent'. She gave Bob a special drink and he felt better straight away and the angel magiced him back home to his bedroom to continue playing Minecraft.

Aurelia (Year 5)



Guinness Book of World Records

To celebrate **Poetry Day** this year, children in Years 3 and 4 participated in an attempt to break the **Guinness Book of Records**. The challenge was to have to most amount of children in a poetry lesson at once. The theme was 'Counting' and the children were asked to collaborate on a poem about what matters to them. They took part in an online lesson and all generated ideas which went towards creating a final, published poem:

A link to the final poem can be found here:
[What Do You Think Counts? - The Children's Poetry Archive](#)

What Do You Think Counts?

by Laura Mucha



**OFFICIAL
ATTEMPT**



GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ Title Attempt for Largest Poetry Lesson (Multiple Venues)

I want to say a huge, HUGE thank you for EVERYTHING you did to take part in this attempt to break the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for Largest Poetry Lesson (Multiple Venues). Whether that was using the teaching resources in class, submitting ideas, voting during the live lesson on Zoom, or watching the lesson on YouTube Live. I could not have done this without you.

Literally.

Trying to break the record for the world's Largest Poetry Lesson would be a total failure if it was just me talking to myself!

Every single person that took part counts – and that includes YOU.

So thank you.

THANK YOU!

Now that you've taken part in this and helped create a poem that is published on the Children's Poetry Archive and will be published across the UK (including on radio, newspapers and magazines), I hope that you know that:

You are a **POET**.

And I hope that you go on to write and read lots more poems in the future.

Whatever is going on in your life, poetry can be a really useful way of exploring how you feel and what you think, connecting with others, making them laugh – and, in the case of our poem, encouraging others pause and reflect on what's really important in life.

I'm REALLY proud of our poem and I hope you are too.

Thank you.

Laura Mucha

In partnership with



Year 2 Trip to The little Angel Theatre

Year 2 had spectacular visit to the Little Angel Theatre to watch their latest performance called 'Dog's Don't Dance'



On the last day of the half term, we celebrated **Wear Red Day 2024** as part of

**SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD**



As part of our ongoing Rights Respecting and PSHE curriculum, the whole school have been learning about the **power of words** and the **power of kindness**.

October Half Term Play Scheme

It was another week of immense fun at the Holiday Play Scheme! From sports activities to cooking and a range of arts and crafts, the children enjoyed playing and making new friends from across the school. If you would like to find out more about our Holiday Play Schemes, please speak with **Nancy**, our Kids' Club Manager.



"I liked that we carved the pumpkins and the fork print animals and we made Jack Skeleton cookies" - Mia, Year 3.



I liked reading, playing on the pitch and Lego. I also liked making Skeleton cookies - Finn, Reception.



Kids' Club has a variety of things that you can do. From baking delicious cookies, to playing football, reading, craft activities and more. It's a great opportunity to make new friends - Damian, Year 6.



NONFICTION NOVEMBER

Next month is *Non Fiction November*. It is a chance to celebrate this wonderful reading genre that engages readers and brings facts to life. Studies show that children who read non fiction books, care about the world they live in and can make them more motivated to read!

Those who read non-fiction are more likely to want to take care of the environment

The National Literacy Trust



To celebrate, we will have a Non Fiction display in the library along with activities to support this. **Why not visit the library after school on Thursday afternoons and pick a book for you and your child to read together?**

If you are looking for inspiration for great reads for you and your child to enjoy together, then check out the Book Trust. They have recommendations for each age group and books whatever your child's interest

[Bookfinder: find children's books for every age | BookTrust](#)

Ambassador Elections



We have been hosting elections in classes during the last two weeks for many leadership opportunities within the school. Thank you to everyone who took part; it is always an absolute delight to hear your opinions and voices, you are truly all future leaders.

On Thursday 18th October, we all met together for the first time in the hall, before branching off into our smaller groups. It is clear from the picture how much pupil voice we have at the school!

The children are all responsible for leading the following groups:

Green Group (School Council)
Garden Ambassadors
Skills Builder Ambassadors
PE Ambassadors
Safety Ambassadors
Reading Ambassadors



Leadership

Supporting, encouraging and developing others to achieve a shared goal

Would you like to help William Tyndale School secure an extra £4000 on average in additional funding?

Great, as David Astburys Estate Agents would love to help support this incredible cause. For a limited time only, we are offering:



Sales

To pay 20% of our fee for any property we sell, which comes via a William Tyndale recommendation. This would result in an average £4000 being paid back to the school, for every completed transaction we are a part of.

Lettings

10% for the first 5 properties let, subject to referral to us by the parents, guardians, carers or staff. Thereafter, 15% on any successful lets carried out, subject to referral from the 6th January let, running throughout until tenancies commencement. (Up until 31st December 2024)

Property Management for just £49/month

For a limited time we are offering a heavily reduced fixed rate for NEW and existing clients.
*Terms and conditions apply.

Referral Incentive

To support the fundraising for the schools we sponsor, we will give William Tyndale a percentage of our fees for any referrals to us by the parents, guardians, carers or staff across deals complete in Sales and Lettings in 2024. This can be an external referral bought to us from you too!



Skill of the Month



This skill is all about how to communicate effectively with others, being mindful of whether they are talking to customers, colleagues or other stakeholders and in different settings.

Initially, this skill focuses on being able to speak clearly - first with well known individuals and small groups and then with those who are not known.

The next stage is about being an effective speaker by making points logically, by thinking

Challenge:

Imagine you are providing the voice over for a documentary about life in your household.

Go from room to room and talk about who and what is in the room as if you were the narrator of a television programme. If you can, record your ideas and play it back to other household members to make them smile.

Challenge: Reflect on how clearly you spoke.

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: How do we know if we are speaking clearly?

Intermediate: As you speak how can you put your points into a logical order so you can be easily understood?

Advanced: How can you use tone, expression and gesture to make your speaking engaging?

Mastery: How can you adapt the content of what you are saying, in response to listeners?

The Department of Education Visit

On Friday 11th November, some very important visitors from the **Department of Education** visited the school along with members of Skills Builder Team. They came to learn how we develop skills in learners and provide a careers curriculum. During the visit, they heard from children, had the opportunity to walk around the school and drop into a lesson. They were very impressed with everything they saw.

“Always such an inspiring time talking to your pupils and teachers. You have a really special school there.”

Skills Builder Team

“A huge thank you to all the staff and pupils and others at William Tyndale for hosting us and giving us such a fantastic insight into the great work going on at the school in this area.”

Department for Education



Autumn Two Parent and Carer Workshops

Phonics

Friday 8th November at 9 - 9.30 am

Learn about how phonics is taught at the school. You will find out about:

- How rhymes and music can help your child progress in phonics
- How letters and sounds gradually develop in their complexity
- The different skills that support reading and writing words
- How a multisensory approach could help your child

Please sign up using the following link: [Phonics workshop](#)



Parent Information Conferences

Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th November

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.



Learning Through Play

Thursday 21st November 9 - 9.30 am

Learn how we teach through play in the Foundation Stage. You will find out about:

- The 'essential learning characteristics' that support play
- How children are challenged and coached to develop these
- The importance of language in developing play
- Ways to support and extend play at home

Please sign up using the following link: [Learning through play](#)



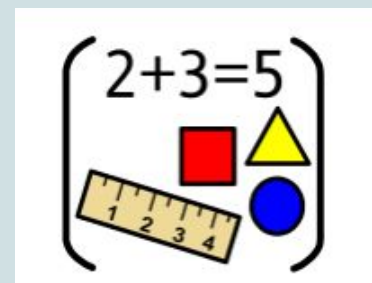
KS1 Maths

Friday 29th November at 9 - 9.30 am

Learn how we teach maths in Reception and KS1. You will find out about:

- What the curriculum looks like for each year group
- Questions that are within the national expectations for each year group
- Resources and images that we use to support learning of concepts
- How we develop fluency in number
- How you can support your child with their maths at home.

Please sign up using the following link: [KS1 maths workshop](#)



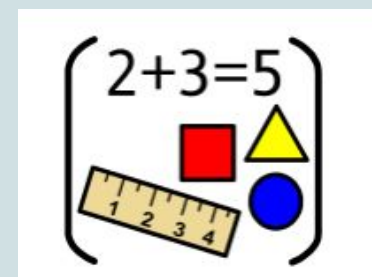
KS2 Maths

Friday 6th December at 9 - 9.30 am

Learn how we teach maths in Key Stage 2. You will find out about:

- What the curriculum looks like for each year group
- Questions that are within the national expectations for each year group
- How we develop fluency with number
- How we promote flexibility with maths
- How you can support your child with their maths at home.

Please sign up using the following link: [KS2 Maths workshop](#)



Christmas Shows

Please see the Google Calendar



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. We will be running another Online Safety Workshop with Get Safe Online in September at the Halifax Flagship Store. In the meantime, please look at these resources:

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 Islington 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 items, each with an icon and a title in a colored 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