

NEWSLETTER

February 2017



Reading Festival



We have had a great start to the Vicarage Reading Festival. The children have started completing their Reading Quest Booklets and lots of children have already received their bronze and silver badges. Last week children in the Early Years had a fantastic session with the author and illustrator Chloe Inkpen who also signed many books for the children after school.

Many congratulations to these children for their winning bookmark designs:

Riley-RH, Riley-1JM, Zaynab-2K, Hawwa-3S, Tasnim-4N, Mariam-5S and Kapil-6Z

These children were awarded a special gift voucher and the overall school winner Usman in 6Z will have his exciting design printed as a souvenir. Well done Usman!

Please encourage your children (in Years 2-6) to access the fantastic website [My Bookblog](#) which allows your child to develop their reading skills in a fun way. Well done to the children who have already completed lots of online quizzes and blogs about the books they are reading.



On Monday 30th January we also had a fantastic day with author Paul Delaney; he shared some of his work in an assembly and in some writing workshops throughout the day. The children loved working with him and produced some excellent writing. He will be back in two weeks' time to help present prizes for our short story competition which is currently underway. He will also be signing copies of his books after school on 10th Feb in the school library. Don't miss out!

We have also had lots of parents come into school during the afternoons to read to their children in class. These sessions have been so exciting! Thank you to all the parents who have kindly volunteered to help in this way. Your help is much appreciated by the teachers and especially by your children.

Thank you for all your continued support throughout this first ever Reading Festival. Happy Reading!

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Many congratulations to children in Years 2 and 3 who have had their writing published following a national writing competition last July.

Well done to:

Danyal Hussain (Year 3)

Samiya Mohamed (Year 3)

Riah Hoque (Year 3)

Mysoon Hasan (Year 3)

Dakshaa Shourie (Year 3)

Raihan Rahman (Year 2)

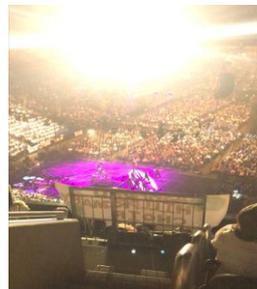
Ali Hashim (year 3)

Mannava (Year 3)

Their winning entries have been published into an anthology called "My First Story 2016"

Many special congratulations to Mohammed Aayan Chowdhury in 3C who was the overall competition winner.

Vicarage Choir at the O2 Arena



Some of our KS2 choir children went along to perform at the O2 on Wednesday 18th January as part of the biggest choir ever with the Young Voices. There were nearly 7500 children singing and dancing as part of a spectacular performance. Guest singers and dancers took the stage and amazed us all with their talent. The children's behaviour was excellent despite the long and tiring day. One parent who attended said "It was amazing. I didn't expect it to be so good". The children had to learn a lot of songs and everyone had their favourites. Aisha said "I liked the song called Stronger Together" and Benita enjoyed singing 5 Guys named Mo.

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Vicarage Garden

It has been a long held vision for the school to have its very own garden. We have had many mini-growing projects, but we still didn't have a garden that could be used by the children all year round. This meant that we had to visit other gardens to learn about the importance of growing food locally, to experience harvesting fruit and vegetables, composting as well as identifying common plants and insects. We are delighted to inform you that Vicarage children now have their very own garden.

The main school garden situated at the rear of the school. This used to be a large field until some of it was developed into a multi-games use area (MUGA). The garden area was developed soon after. There is now a shed, bird table, a seating area made out of logs, a mini- beast manor, a strawberry patch and a herb patch. Some garlic bulbs have been planted and we are looking forward to our first harvest. Lots of winter greens, salad leaves and spring cabbages have also been planted for the first time.



Royal Horticultural Society Gardening Awards

Vicarage's garden has been awarded two prestigious gardening awards. These were gained on the recognition of the gardening skills that have been learnt and the vegetables that have been grown.

Flowerbed Design Competition



During December 2016, children from Years 4 -6 had the opportunity to design a flowerbed. The competition winner was Zemyna-4IB. Meja-4G was the runner-up. Well done to both of you!

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The winning design has now been planted with over 90 colourful spring bulbs.

Language of the term - Romanian

At Vicarage Primary school we believe it is important for children to celebrate the many different languages spoken by the children. We have been doing this by having a 'Language of the term'. The children learn about where the different languages are spoken and some of the key language. So far, we have looked at Tamil and Romanian and next term the language will be Urdu. Children who speak the language have been helping the teachers to learn too!

The Brilliant Club

Well done to the eleven children in year 5 who were selected to take part in The Scholars Programme, an academic programme run by The Brilliant Club, an organisation which aims to widen access for outstanding pupils in non-selective state schools to the United Kingdom's most selective universities. The children attended university-style tutorials, which were taught by PhD tutors and they completed mini assignments for each tutorial. The children had the great opportunity to visit two leading Universities (University of Sussex and Cambridge University), where they took part in tutorials and were able to explore the grounds. At the end of the programme, the children completed a final assignment which consisted of 1000 words. The children were able to graduate and receive certificates for passing the programme. The successful children were Nadia Sultana (5C), Rehan Haque (5I), Dasani Thabesh (5C), Zain Iqbal (5C), Sumaiya Rahman (5I), Asma Ahmed (5S), Fatima Choudhury (5C), Camilla Gedrimaite(5C), Mariam Ali (5S), Arsalan Tahir (5C) and Sofia Monforte (5I).



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BDCA AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Local charity Bonny Downs Community Association provide a high quality, low cost childcare service from 3-6pm for primary school children aged between 4½-11 years.

Their team of qualified staff collect children from our school and walk them safely to the Bobby Moore Sports Pavilion (E6 2SG) where they can enjoy a fun-packed programme of games, arts, outdoor play, trips, workshops, gardening, homework support & a healthy snack.

This service only costs £12 per child per day (payable a week in advance) or a discounted rate of £50 for all 5 weekdays. They can also negotiate sibling discounts.

BDCA After School Club is an Ofsted registered Early Years Centre no. EY492256 (Formerly 'BDCA in the Park').

They pride themselves on creating a safe space where children can relax, make new friends and develop their talents. Their aim is for local children to have fun, continue learning and feel at home while their parents/carers are at work.

For more information, please contact them on: 07542 125 476 / afterschoolclub@bonnydowns.org

Safeguarding & Playground

We would like to remind parents that if your child is not attending the early morning breakfast or booster clubs that you should not be leaving them alone in the playground before 8:30am for their safety. If parents need to go off to work early please ring the office to find out about the breakfast club that we run every morning from 8am; special arrangements can be made if you would like your child to start at 7:30am.

Parents are also reminded that if you allow the children to play on the equipment before and after school that you must ensure they are properly supervised by a responsible adult. Please do not allow children under the age of 4 to play on any of the equipment in the playground.

Be on Time - 5 to 9



The school day starts at 5 to 9 (8:55am). Please make sure your child is in the playground before this time so they are ready to start their school day on time. Missing even a few minutes at the start of the school day has a big impact on the learning of not only the child who is late but the other children in the class. Parents of children who are persistently late will be asked to meet with our Attendance team to discuss the issue.

Parents may have noticed that the side and back gates are now being closed at 9am. Children who arrive after 9am will need to go to the main gate where they will be registered.

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Parking outside the school gates

Please be reminded that there is **NO PARKING** on the yellow zigzag lines in front of the school. Again this is for the safety of all our children; if you are parked directly in front of the school then passing vehicles will not be able to see children attempting to cross the road which may result in an unfortunate accident. We need you to work with us to keep your children safe before and after school so if you see someone parked where they shouldn't then please point out the danger to your children and to these drivers when you are crossing. **PLEASE** wait for the school crossing officer to help you cross.

Attendance Matters

A polite reminder that Newham's Attendance Management Service require medical evidence if children are absent from school immediately before or after a termly break. Medical evidence is also required for absences in excess of three days and where attendance slips below 95% in any half term period.

You can be fined up to £60 by Newham Council for taking term-time holidays, for poor school attendance from your child or for a range of other school non-attendance reasons.

As a parent/carer it is **YOUR** legal duty to ensure your child attends school every day on time.

Dates for your Diary



Friday 10th February - Last day of term 3

Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February - Half term break

School reopens to children - Monday 20th February - term 4

Friday 3rd March - Dressing up for World Book Day

Friday 31st March - Last day of term 4

Teacher Training Day - Tuesday 18th April

School reopens to children - Wednesday 19th April - term 5

Mrs S Khan
Head Teacher