

# NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2018

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### Walk to School Week - 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> March

We are very excited to be taking part in Walk to school week. The aim of the week is to encourage children, staff and parents to walk to school. Other benefits include:

- Walking is good for your body - daily exercise helps us feel fit and healthy
- Walking is good for the environment - walking is the most environmentally friendly way to travel
- Walking can make you feel happy - walking makes you feel more positive and ready to start the day
- Walking is good for your relationships - having a walk is a great opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends

It would be great if as many children walked to school as possible. We have planned lessons and activities throughout the week. If you do not live near to school and use public transport, consider getting off the bus a few stops early and continue your journey on foot, so that the children can experience walking at least part of the way to school.

Children will receive certificates for walking to school all week and prizes will be given to the classes with the highest number of children walking to school.

During this week we will also be focusing on Road Safety to ensure children know how to keep safe when walking on roads and pavements.

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### School Council Visit the Houses of Parliament



On Tuesday 6th March, our School Council had the amazing opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament.

Upon arrival, they were taken on a guided tour which included the House of Commons, where MPs sit. While there, they were able to listen to a debate taking place on Justice. It was incredible to see democracy in action! The children learned that MPs are not allowed to address each other directly, but through the Speaker of the House who invites them to speak.

The tour concluded in the *Great Hall*, which has set the scene for over 1000 years of history, including the trial of King Charles I and Guy Fawkes! They saw a plaque commemorating the place where Nelson Mandela gave a historic speech to Parliament after being made President of South Africa.

Afterwards they took part in a workshop learning about constituencies, democracy, manifestos and voting.

We felt so privileged when at the end of our workshop we had a surprise visit from the local MP for East Ham, Stephen Timms! He asked the children what changes they would suggest in our local area and when put on the spot, happily answered their own challenging questions.

We would like to thank everyone who made our visit so inspiring, including our guides, workshop hosts and of course, Stephen Timms MP.

Here is what our councillors reported about this visit:

Harris: "When we met with Stephen Timms, we discussed with him the ban on selling acid and cigarettes. We spoke about this because sometimes there is a lot of pollution in our area. Our air is more important to us than anything."

Tiffany: "I would never forget the trip to the Houses of Parliament. It was an experience of a lifetime! My favourite part was the Houses of Lords and seeing the Queen's throne!"

Sikander: "It was a breathtaking experience. One of my best parts was to watch a live debate in the House of Commons! We even met Stephen Timms. It was a marvellous experience."

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### WE Day at Wembley Arena



On Wednesday the 7th March some of our school councillors went to represent Vicarage School at the WE Day celebrations at Wembley Arena.

They joined hundreds of other schools from across Greater London in support of the WE organisation, a group of young people united against poverty, hunger and injustice within the UK and across the world.

Our School Council has been closely involved with the WE organisation. We previously organised a food collection at Vicarage during the harvest festival, where proceeds were given to our local community in need. Therefore we wanted to go show our continued support for the organisation.

During the event, schools shared their own national and international initiatives. They also listened to many inspirational speakers and their actions to fight against injustice and fight for the good of the world.

Needless to say, the children all left the event inspired, passionate and driven to organise even more initiatives in our own school with the WE organisation, so we can continue to support all of the amazing work they do!

### Enabling Enterprise Trips for Years 4 and 5

On the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 some of our Year 4 and 5 pupils went on Enabling Enterprise Trips to JLL Canary Wharf and Westfield Centre Management Suite. They were excellent ambassadors for our school. Tom Varley Education Associate wrote, "I just wanted to thank the Vicarage staff and the other school adults and helpers for a fantastic trip to JLL in Canary Wharf and Westfield Stratford. The Enabling Enterprise volunteers were all really impressed by the students' professional behaviour, their creative problem-solving and their confidence to express their ideas, and the kids were engaged for the whole day. They truly were a credit to the school".

At the end of the challenge activities each team was awarded a Skills Awards for the enterprise skill they developed most throughout the day. Certificates will be handed out in assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

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### Vicarage Primary's Poetry Festival

This term, at Vicarage, we held our very first Poetry Festival. It ran from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February till Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March. It was two weeks of creating and performing poetry!

We were pleased to have the author and poet, Paul Delaney join us again following on from our successful Reading Festival last year. The children thoroughly enjoyed his performance poetry and workshops. We were also lucky to have the poet, Andrew Weale, join us to run workshops and poetry readings for the Early Years. Children used this as inspiration to write their own poetry in class to complete poetry challenges over the two week period and take part in various competitions.

The festival finished off with Vicarage's first ever Poetry Slam. For the Poetry Slam, children performed their poetry, which the judges (the pupils) voted for the best performance based on expression, actions and enthusiasm. We are proud to announce the winners of the Poetry Slam are as follows:

Mehrin Miah 2B / Nabhan Khaled 2N / Orobosa Akenzua 2U  
Denis Bartos 3B / Mia Bromwell 3B / Adam Ouarite 3B / Angel Chisasape 3B /  
Zander Chalkley 3M / Bilal Raza 3B  
Abdul Wajid 5P / Rahim Stapleton 5P

Congratulations to all the Poetry Slam winners.

During the festival, children were truly inspired and have written outstanding poems. We at Vicarage are very proud- so much so- that we have decided to create an anthology and publish many of the poems in Vicarage's Book of Poems!



Poetry Slam winners in year 3 wearing character costumes as part of our World Book Day celebrations

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### EYFS Mother's Day Tea Party



In Nursery and Reception, the pupils wanted to find a special way to show their mums just how much they appreciate their hard work and continuous love and support. What better way than to throw a Tea Party!

All week pupils worked hard to make banners saying why they love their mums. They also painted portraits of their mums and made Mother's Day cards and bouquets. They practised signing a range of songs which they performed to their mums at the tea party.

The Nursery and Reception pupils put on a mini concert for their mums before everyone enjoyed yummy scones, biscuits and tea. The feedback we received from our mums was amazing!

"The afternoon tea was such a beautiful experience, thank you for organising it"

"What a wonderful tea party! James spoke about this all week and was so happy to invite me to come along to hear the singing and show me the crafts, well done Reception team!"

James' mum RPR

"This is one of the most moving things I as a mum of 3 have ever had. It is a really lovely idea, much appreciated Thank you all!"

Paula's mum RR

"A lovely tea party, a beautiful way to appreciate mums xx"

Nursery mum

Thank you to all the mums who attended and to all the wonderful mums for supporting the work we do at Vicarage.

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### World Maths Day - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Vicarage has been celebrating Maths through WORLD MATHS DAY. The activities started on 6<sup>th</sup> March, when children took part in a LIVE Mathematics competition competing with children from around the world. In total, 400 schools took part in the challenges.

This was followed by our Maths Day on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Vicarage staff and children came in dressed up as numbers and symbols related to Maths. Staff had organised lots of fun maths throughout the school. All our children did exceptionally well and thank you for also encouraging your children to play Mathematics at home.



Children's University (CU) aims to encourage children to **learn outside the regular school day** by taking part in different activities.

Please take advantage of the East holidays to collect stamps in your child's Children's University passports. This can be done by visiting a various learning destinations. Full details can be found on:

<http://www.childreuniversity.co.uk/>

If you would like your child to participate in Children's University, please buy a passport from the school office for £3.00.

### Dates for your Diary



Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening from 3:30pm-7:00pm  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Parents Evening from 3:30pm-5:00pm  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Parents Coffee Morning - Topic: Parking outside school  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Last day of Term 4  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Break  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April - Teacher Training Day  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April - Back to School - Term 5  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April - Tamil Coffee Morning from 9:15am-10:00am



Mrs S Khan  
Head Teacher