



February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by thanking you for testing your children regularly. This has been really helpful and we are finally starting to see cases slow down and we have most staff back in school at the moment.

Also thank you for your cooperation and understanding with regard to cancelling clubs at short notice. I am hopeful that this won't be necessary as cases continue to fall. Please continue to test and socialise carefully over half term so we don't encourage Covid!

Thank you to those of you who have updated your contact details recently, if you have not done this yet, please do so.

It was really lovely to see all the children dressed in bright colours on Love and Happiness day! Thank you for helping them choose their colour.

Have a lovely, safe half term and please continue reading with your child every day!

Emiley Davies
Headteacher



Easy Fundraising

We are looking to develop a reflection garden for our children. To help fund this, please sign up for Easy Fundraising. It's completely free for any shopper and every penny raised will benefit our children. [Fundraising |](#)

[Charity Fundraising Online | Easyfundraising](#)



WHAT'S INSIDE?

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SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



Just before Christmas, our School Council visited The Welcome Centre in Ilford. They learned about the impact of homelessness and the support offered at the centre. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our food collection.



Our School Council voted to support King George & Queens' Hospitals Charity. Our Reindeer Run raised a staggering **£3,372.95**. A massive thank you to everyone who helped bring a smile to those children who were hospitalised over the festive period.



Last half term, we introduced banded books in Years 3-6. Our School Council listened to their classmates and told their teachers that you felt we didn't have enough interesting banded books. Because of this, we have now spent a significant amount of money on new books! We trust everyone will enjoy reading them!

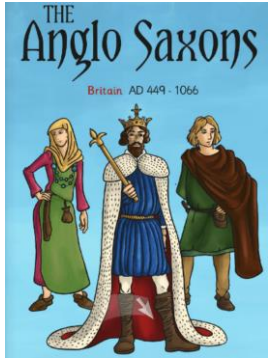


How do you think we can make our school a better place? Our School Councillors are always ready to listen. So, if you have any ideas, don't forget to speak to them.





LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



Year 5

Year 5 have been studying the Anglo-Saxons. They have recently welcomed a visitor who took them back in time to the Middle Ages! Our children were given the task of building a home out of straw and mud and even had to march to the King to pay taxes! This was a wonderful experience for the children and their teachers were particularly impressed with the amount of vocabulary they learned.



Year 3



Our Year 3 children have been learning about The Stone Age. This is a period of prehistory, which ended approximately 5000 years ago, in which humans used primitive stone tools. You may remember seeing a large tent camped out on our field a couple of weeks ago. These visitors camped overnight, living similarly to how people would have done in The Stone Age. They also delivered a Stone Age workshop to our Year 3 children. This gave them a real insight into how stone was used and how people survived during this historical period.



LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Year 2 ventured into London last week. They visited the London Eye and learned about some of the key landmarks in our city. Upon returning to class the children have written reports about their experiences, we trust you will enjoy reading examples of their work below.

On Tuesday 1st February we went to the London Eye. When we went on the London Eye we saw Big Ben with the shiny clock. Then after thirty minutes we had done a full circle. Going into the pod I felt nervous because we had to run on quickly as it didn't stop. The view was spectacular because there were lots and lots of buildings we could see. I even saw the Shard and Buckingham Palace. At lunch I was so tired as we had been walking for a long time. This was an amazing day and one I won't forget.

By Yusuf – Kerr class



On Tuesday 1st February we went to the London Eye. We travelled by bus and train. On the train, we talked for a little bit and then we finally arrived in London. We walked across Jubilee Bridge to get us closer to the London Eye. I loved looking at the structures of the bridge. A while later we had to get into the pod and I felt a bit scared because they were moving! Thankfully, I got on safely and enjoyed seeing famous buildings like Big Ben and Parliament. It was the most joyful day ever!

Zunayra Ali - Grey



On Tuesday 1st February we were lucky to go on a trip to the London Eye. When we were travelling I first felt bored because it was a long journey. Once we got there I was jubilant but then when we got on the London Eye I felt hungry. Once we got off Miss Ali had a genius idea to go to the Southbank Centre and eat our lunch. After we ate our lunch we did our activity and then travelled back to school. Have you been to the London Eye? Have you gone to the city?

By Khadija – Tagore



DIARY DATES



February

- 8th Sharman to visit Hindu Temple
- 8th Parents' Evening (3:40-5:40pm)
- 9th Coleman to visit Hindu Temple
- 9th Parents' Online Safety Meeting – Zoom
- 10th Jemison to visit Hindu Temple
- 10th Parents' Evening (3:40 – 7:20pm)
- 10th EYFS Fairy Tale dress up day
- 11th Break up for half term
- 21st Children return to school
- 25th EYFS Coffee Morning – Nursery



March

- 3rd World Book Day
- 3rd Dental visit to see Nursery, Reception & Year 1
- 8th Yr 6 visit Shakespeare's Globe
- 14th Book Fair in downstairs hall
- 15th Book Fair in downstairs hall
- 16th Book Fair in downstairs hall
- 18th Red Nose Day
- 18th EYFS Coffee Morning – Reception
- 21st Yr 4 visit Synagogue
- 23rd EYFS Coffee Morning – Nursery
- 30th Car Boot Sale



April

- 1st Break up for Easter holiday
- 18th Bank Holiday – school closed
- 19th Children return to school
- 22nd Class Photographs
- 22nd EYFS Coffee Morning – Reception
- 29th EYFS Coffee Morning – Nursery



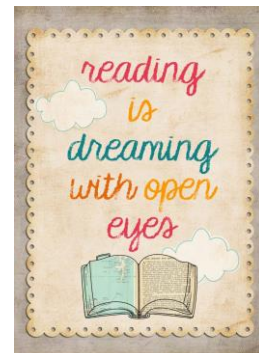
Please note that all dates are subject to change. You can keep up to date on all diary dates via the school website or MySchoolApp. If you need help downloading this, please see the school office for help.



READING UPDATE

“Children who are good at reading do more of it: they learn more, about all sorts of things, and their expanded vocabulary, gained from their reading, increases their ease of access to more reading.”

Department for Education

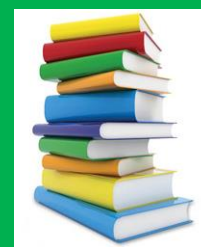


Reading continues to be a firm priority at Mayespark. Here are some of the recent changes we have made to help ensure every child develops the reading skills necessary to achieve in life.



This term, we have introduced a reading framework in Years 3-6 called **Destination Reader**. Through this structure we are explicitly teaching the following skills: predication, clarifying, summarising, inference, questioning, evaluating and making connections. We are confident that this approach will help us to accelerate children’s progress in reading and encourage them to foster a life-long love of reading.

To help ensure all children are reading books at an appropriate level, we have now moved to using colour banded books for every child across the school. There are now in excess of 200 additional books for children to choose from in each year group. All children are expected to read their school banded book at least 6 times every week and complete their reading record.



Please don’t forget that we have composed recommended reading lists for every year group. These can be found on our website via the following link: [Support for Parents - Mayespark Primary School](#) Goodmayes Library will be able to help you source these books. Where appropriate, children are able to read these books in place of their banded book.



Our Senior Leaders regularly monitor children’s reading records. Thank you to everyone who reads regularly at home.

Keep it up!



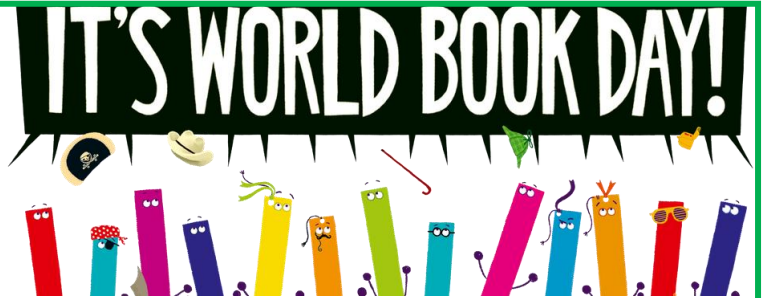


OTHER NEWS & REMINDERS



30th March

Please book a pitch via the school office



3rd March

Children are able to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

Learning Resources

As a school we invest money into a range of online learning platforms. Some of these we use in school, but they are also designed to support learning at home. Please take time to use these wonderful resources. Further information on other programmes can be found on our website [Support for Parents - Mayespark Primary School](#)



For children in Yr 3-6. Children should aim for 3 times a week. [ReadingPlus Student Login](#)



For children in Yr 3-6. Children should aim for 5-10 minutes daily. [Wonde](#)



Please help our office staff by ensuring you keep us informed of your latest contact details and emergency contacts.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Please remember that any non-urgent medical appointments need to be taken outside of the school day.