

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR THIS WEEK'S TOP STORIES...



Edmund Waller

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



7th November 2014

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 2nd December
6 —7:30pm
Maths Open Evening

Wednesday 6th December
Winter Fayre

Monday 8th December
Reception Nativity

Tuesday 16th December 10:30am
Winter Concert at St
Catherine's Church

Friday 19th December 3:30pm
Children break up for the holiday

Monday 5th January
School closed for staff INSET

Tuesday 6th January 2015
First day of the Spring term for children

Class Assembly Dates

2P - Wednesday 12th November

2M - Wednesday 19th November

We have had an exceptional first week back this half-term. Thank you for sending your children back to school rested and ready to learn after the break. It was wonderful to see parents and carers at the Parent Drop-In on Tuesday. The next Parent Drop-In will be after school on Tuesday 2nd December, when you will have the opportunity to visit your child's class and see what they have been learning.

We have so much to share that we can't fit it all on the back of this week's newsletter. In order to keep you up to date with the children's learning and to celebrate their successes, each class will be producing a blog that will be accessible when our new website is launched in January.

Training for Reading Volunteers

We would like to say a huge thank you for those of you who have volunteered to read with some of our younger children and /or accompany classes on educational visits. If you are still interested in volunteering, please speak

We value your time and skills and will be delivering training, so you feel confident supporting children in developing their independent reading strategies.

We will be introducing short structured session, which will include discussing the text with the child; prompting them to problem-solve difficulties; linking the book to the child's previous experiences and asking open-ended questions to establish the child's understanding of the text. Each session follows a similar format of re-reading a known and familiar text, re-reading a book recently taken home, and introducing a new text.

The training will take place **for volunteers only** in the 1G classroom on Monday 17th November at 3:45pm

We will repeat the training for any parents and carers who would like to learn these strategies on Monday 24th November in Cooke Hall at 3:45pm.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our PTA Autumn Disco a huge success. Special thanks to all our volunteer parents and carers because without you it wouldn't happen. We hope you all danced your socks off.



Warm clothes

Autumn is certainly here, following that glorious half-term sunshine. Whilst, our Victorian building is now toasty and warm, the same cannot be said of the playground.

Please ensure your children wear appropriate clothing and footwear, so they can enjoy their breaks with their friends at this time of year.

School Council Update

The School Council has decided to raise the awareness of homelessness and the experiences of homeless people in our local community. During the year, we will raise funds to help the homeless.

We can now reveal that we will be working in partnership with the 999 Club in Deptford. This local charity provides comfort, respite and advice to some of the most isolated, excluded and lonely people in London throughout the year. We are incredibly lucky that the director of the charity has volunteered to help the School Council plan a whole school assembly to develop the children's understanding of why some people in our country do not have a place to call home.



A registered charity

Look out for our first fundraising initiative in next week's newsletter.

Safety Reminder

If your child is being collected by another adult, please remember to inform their class teacher.



On Wednesday Night, Year 6 children, performed *Richard III* at Greenwich Theatre to a captivated audience. Children from our partner school, Holbeach also entertained the audience with their production of *Macbeth* and there was an electrifying atmosphere.

Shakespeare Schools Festival

A member of the audience, unrelated to Edmund Waller, commented that having seen a number of professional productions of *Richard III*, the children's performance was by far and away the most accomplished and powerful rendition they had had the pleasure to watch.



I have really enjoyed the Shakespeare Festival. I loved performing to the crowd and it was great fun. I really liked the play and how it came together, performing the scenes and doing it live.

It was one of the best feelings I've ever had. I've never experienced this and it was the first time for me to perform in front of six hundred people. While I wasn't acting

I had the most amazing time being in *Richard III* and performing in Greenwich Theatre. I loved being on stage and becoming another character. I also liked being in the wings and backstage, as the excitement levels were so high and everyone was a bit nervous (especially me!) but when we got on stage it was great. I liked it when we were all on stage like in the mayor scene, because it was more interesting for everyone and the atmosphere was much better. When we came off the stage everybody was ecstatic! We all had an amazing time and when we bowed at the end the crowd roared LOUDLY! It was fantastic!

I enjoyed watching the other plays. It was a really good opportunity that I will cherish.

I have learned a lot of skills about how to put on a successful play. The way that you speak how loud you are really helps the audience to understand more. I never knew that lighting really made the play look realistic! In one of the scenes the lighting really helped the atmosphere to look blood-thirsty and made us get into character.

Zhanna Farquarson Yr 6
(abridged)

I found it quite hard to stand up in front of everybody and say my lines! I also got a bit confused about where I was supposed to be because we had to change sides a lot and remember which wing to come out of. It was also hard to make sure the audience couldn't hear or see you because when you are in the wings you don't know whether they can see you or not and when we did the rehearsal everyone could hear our feet! It was also very difficult to communicate without making a noise.

Eleanor Cocks Yr 6
(abridged)



On Thursday 6th November Year 5 visited the National Gallery as part of their Rivers topic. When they returned to school, they reflected on some of the artwork they had seen. Here are a couple of the children's responses:



Lulu Luxford's response to *The Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba* by Monet:

Her clothes are very beautiful, she is clothed in pink and has a phenomenal cape in a lovely blue. You can see she is important as the people next to her are wearing a gold colour and in those days blue was an expensive ink, colour, dye and paint.

Isolde Stuttard's response to Monet's *Water Lilies*:

The artist that painted this was called Monet and the painting is of a pond in one of his gardens. I think he painted this because all the colours stand out beautifully. These colours stand out because they are complementary colours. The golden colours are the sun reflecting on to it. I think the season is spring and summer because of the brightness in the picture.