



Fortnightly Update – Friday 1st November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of this incredibly busy autumn term. We hope you had a lovely half term break; the children have come back refreshed and ready to start work.

So much has happened this week, Reception started on Monday by recruiting their Eco warriors and had their very first meeting.

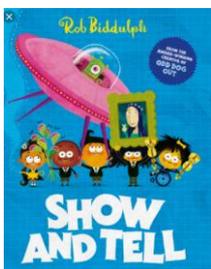
On Tuesday, we enjoyed Delicious Diwali treats in the hall lit with sparklers and tea lights.

Thank you to all who contributed their wonderful sweets and cakes. And thank you to Ms Ewa for organising the celebration.

Then on Wednesday, we had the PTFA Halloween Disco after school. It was lovely to see so many children dressed in their Halloween costumes. Many thanks to the PTFA for organising everything, the children had great fun.

On Thursday we had a very special visitor, Rob Biddulph, the famous children's author and illustrator came to do a workshop with the children. He talked about his books, the characters in his books, and how he became an illustrator and author. It was an amazing experience for the children!

Then he showed children how to draw the alien from his latest book, 'Show and Tell', which he also read to the children to finish the workshop.



Also on Thursday, some of our Year 1 and Year 2 children went on a visit to the Tower of London. The children were absolutely fascinated by the crown jewels!

After school on Thursday, parents were invited to our Reception maths workshop. Thank you to those of you who attended, I hope it was useful.

Finally on Friday, we invited grandparents in to share in their grandchildren's learning and spend some time getting to know the school and the other grandparents. Thank you to all who took the time to come and visit, your grandchildren really appreciate having you in school!





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Thank you and have a lovely weekend!
Jessica Mendelssohn
EYFS Lead AHT and interim DHT

NURSERY

We have had very happy children returning back to nursery after the half term break. We have celebrated three birthdays, Ruby and Hannah who are now 4 years old and Chloe who is 3. Thank you for your lovely books, we look forward to reading and enjoying them as much as you do.



We have been celebrating Halloween in the nursery by hammering sticks and nails into pumpkins. The children have been learning to hammer with more control and develop their hand/eye coordination and how to use one handed tools safely.



We enjoyed 'Room on the Broom' yesterday in our reading area which was lit with a

pumpkin lantern. The children joined in with the story by doing actions and repeating phrases from the book.



RECEPTION

Our very first Reception Ecowarriors were nominated today after our class recycling discussions. A big green welcome to Saif, Zoe, Melly, Stanley, Lianna and Malachai. The Ecowarriors had a meeting about the biodiversity in our school as well as our energy use and the water consumption.



We realised that although we love our hens and the giant snail, we would like more animals in Reception and we talked about planting to attract more insects throughout the year. We love our field time and we talked about bringing more nature into our indoor and outdoor classroom spaces by planting and using chopped up trees. Together we filled out our Eco School audit and were very



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pleased to see that we scored 15 out of 18 as a school!



We scored highly because of our commitment to recycling, our rainwater collection and our clever systems which switch power and taps off when we don't use them. We want to ban plastic straws and balloons as an important next step and the Ecowarriors suggested paper or even metal straws if we really need them.

The next step is for our new Ecowarriors to help create the action plan and tell everyone about what we're going to do next to become even more 'green' so that everybody can be involved every day! If you have any ideas, suggestions or donations to help make us more sustainable please do let us know! For more details on the Eco Schools project and how GT is achieving our Bronze status please visit <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>



Also this week the children had some new trucks delivered courtesy of your £10 fund,

they have also enjoyed trying out our German and Japanese saws to cut a new stock of wood, also purchased using our Reception fund. Thank you so much for all your contributions!

We had lots of grandparents visit us in Reception in Friday; the children really enjoyed showing them their special books!



YEAR 1

This week there has been lots of writing going on in Year 1. The children were inspired by the visit from Rob Biddulph and wrote their own stories. Some of our children went on a visit to the Tower of London. They learnt about life in the past.



On Friday we had visits from lots of grandparents and extended families and we



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read with them and involved them in our learning.



WEEKLY DATES

NEW! After School Music School at Willowbrook Primary E10

A brand new after school music school started recently in the borough taking place every Thursday from 4 - 6pm. At this after school club pupils will experience the joy of making music with others, as soon as they start learning an instrument. As well as instrumental music groups, there'll be choir rehearsals and a fun 'Music Club' where pupils can join to develop a broader range of musical skills to support their progress. The cost of the music school is £31 per 10 week term (£15.50 for families on a low income).

For more info visit: [eventbrite](#)

Toddler group



Wednesday mornings - 9.00 – 10.45am – Toddler Group. Please come and join in the fun. This session is open to all friends and family in the local area. Due to its popularity please arrive before 9.30am.

Afternoon toddler group is finished for the term and will start again soon!! Watch this space!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November -

Tuesday 5th AM nursery visit to the library
Thursday 7th PM nursery visit to the library
Wednesday 6th PTFA BID meeting
27th Otter class trip to Leytonstone fire station
28th Pine Martens class trip to Leytonstone fire station
29th Hedgehogs class trip to Leytonstone fire station

December

Xmas Concert Week

Monday 16th – Year 1 Nativity (1.45) 2.00pm
Tuesday 17th Nursery AM/PM Xmas concerts
Wednesday 18th Reception Xmas Concert
Thursday 19th Y2 – Y6 Xmas Church Concert
Friday 20th – Jack and the Bean stalk Panto.

Friday 20th - Last day of term Years Reception – Y6 finish at 1.30pm

Friday 20th ***Please note Nursery also has shortened sessions on the last day, please see timings below.**

AM Nursery 8.45 – 10.45am

PM Nursery 11.30 – 1.30 pm

FT Nursery 8.45 – 1.30pm

Inset day 6th January 2020

Tuesday 7th January 2020 first day back

Lost Coat – Pine Martens are looking for a sky blue winter coat. (Land's End)



Please return to Pine Martens if you have seen it or taken it home by mistake.

Thanks



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Please take care out and about in the dark,
especially near the school and Tube station.

VERY IMPORTANT

Please attend the following sessions if you have any concerns regarding your child's speech and communications skills. The sooner your child gets the support they need the more chance they have of success!!

