



Fortnightly Update – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

The year is rapidly coming to an end and everyone is getting excited about the festive week ahead. The children have been working hard preparing for their concerts, and I have been lucky to hear them practising. I can't wait to see them perform in their various shows.

Last week saw the last of the immersive Theatre shows, performed to other schools in the area. For the rest of the week, parents came with their children to look around the set. I am glad you had the opportunity to see what it was like for yourselves!



On Wednesday after school we had our fantastic Winter Fair, courtesy of our very own PTFA. What a fabulous event, thank you to everyone that was involved. The pompoms gave the hall a really festive feel and Santa's Grotto was particularly fantastic!

On Monday we had some Year 1 teachers come to visit from a school in Camden. They came to observe our 'In the Moment Planning' approach in Year 1. They were incredibly impressed with what they saw and felt very inspired to go back to their school and share the outstanding practise they have observed at George Tomlinson. The staff should feel proud of what has been achieved so far, especially with how well the children use and access the environment to facilitate a wonderfully child centered and exciting curriculum. Well done Year 1 team!



On Tuesday I saw some lovely creations in the Nursery, inspired by a new maths unit Ms Johnson put up last week. Sofia and Anthony spent ages exploring the shapes.

Finally as the year draws to an end, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. Please read with your children over the holidays, and make sure you comment in their reading records, even just initials will do.

We hope you enjoy the concerts next week; have a lovely holiday.  
All the Best  
Miss Mendelssohn - Assistant Head teacher  
Early Years Lead and Interim Deputy Head teacher



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## NURSERY

The nursery children have been super busy this week practising songs for our Christmas performance which takes place on Tuesday (10am & 1.30pm). The children have been working very hard learning new songs and actions. We can't wait to perform in front of you all!



Many thanks to Primrose florist for kindly donating our amazing Christmas tree. The children have been making it look even more beautiful by hanging decorations on it.

Many thanks from us all in nursery for making the Autumn term so successful. All the children have settled amazingly well and engage in their learning from the moment they step inside. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all in 2020.

## RECEPTION

In Reception we have been busy rehearsing for our Christmas show next week. We are learning several Christmas songs and have

been busy making the hats we will be wearing as part of our costumes.

After assessing the children's progress in Phonics since the start of the year we have started our new groups. All of the children have made progress and are enjoying putting their reading and writing skills into action during their independent play. Melisanthi in Otter Class received a Head Teacher's award last week for her writing. She worked hard all week to write out all the songs for our show and made them into a book! Well done Meli!



This week, in Pine Martens class we made some wonderful salt dough decorations for our Christmas tree! They are definitely worth a try at home, very simple to make and the salt dough stays hard for ages.





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In Maths we are continuing our learning around addition. We have been using both cubes and Numicon to help us to find the answer to different number sentences.

We have been enjoying a range of Christmas related stories, including 'Stickman' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Schaeffler. At the field, we made our own stick men. We had to look carefully for 'y' shaped sticks then use string or elastic bands to secure the arms. We then brought them back to school so we could make up our own stories and narratives.



Please make sure your child has their clothes in school ready to wear for our Christmas show. These need to be in a named bag. If you are unsure what to bring, please ask your child's teacher. The show is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Please arrive at 1.45pm at the school office.

## YEAR 1



Last Friday, the children travelled to the Museum of London. We got to see some of

the animals that have lived in London from prehistoric times, through the Black Death and times when wild animals were used for entertainment purposes, right up to the present day.



**ECO NEWS**



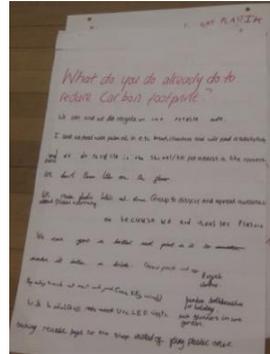
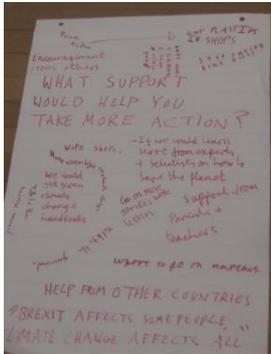
The Eco Warriors were interviewed by Kaizen on behalf of Waltham Forest Council today. The council really want to include children's voices in their new plan for combatting the climate emergency.



Our Eco warriors were amazing at articulating their ideas for how they would like Waltham Forest to change. Everyone had a say and we look forward to the results being announced soon!



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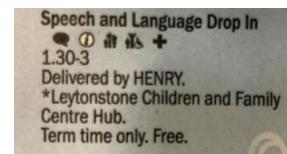
Please take care out and about in the dark, especially near the school and Tube station.

**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!!

**WEEKLY DATES**

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.

**LOST**

We have had a report of a missing red scooter. If you have seen it, or maybe taken it home by mistake, please can you return it or come and speak to the office staff. Any help to aid its return would be much appreciated!

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**December**

**Xmas Concert Week**

- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Nativity (1.45) 2.00pm
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Nursery AM 10.00am – Nursery PM 1.30pm Xmas concerts
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Reception Xmas Concert (1.45) 2.00pm
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Nursery AM Sandwich day
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Y2 – Y6 Xmas Church Concert at 10am
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Nursery PM Sandwich day
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Jack and the Beanstalk Panto.

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

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*\*\*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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 first day back