



Fortnightly – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Wednesday we welcomed reception back to school after their time in isolation. They were very excited to be back and delighted to be back outside enjoying the garden and reception provision.

All year groups have been very busy with their learning over the last few weeks. It's been lovely to see such a variety of activities on offer in each year group, as you'll see by all the photos from each year group.

Reception have started to introduce our George Tomlinson 'Learning Forest' to the children. Each animal living in the forest is based on a different Characteristic of Effective Learning. These characteristics focus on how children are learning rather than what they are learning. Meet Ella the Earthworm, she is curious about learning, likes to explore the world around her and asks lots of questions.



She was introduced to all the children this week and reflects the characteristics of 'playing and exploring'.

Look out for stickers your child might be given that say; 'Ask me how I was an Exploring Earth worm today'

Our Christmas celebrations, will be slightly altered this year, so they can still go ahead. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will be running Christmas performances as usual but they will be filmed for you to watch on our private You Tube channel. (Details on this will be sent out nearer the time.) The Nursery are still going ahead with their sandwich days at the end of

term, so keep an eye out for a letter next week regarding the arrangements for this.

We are also very excited to welcome a virtual pantomime and a few other festive surprises for the end of term.

We wish you all a lovely weekend.

Jessica Mendelssohn Early Years Lead and Assistant Head teacher

## NURSERY

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Nursery as usual! We have been building amazingly tall towers with a variety of construction resources. Emmet was using his problem-solving skills to get his building even taller than him!



He found crates and a platform to stand on and asked his friends to help pass the bricks up to him. He continued this construction the next day with Ms Tuvey to construct an even taller tower that I am sure could be seen from the houses opposite! Emmet made signs saying 'No climbing on the climbing frame' to keep his tower and his friends safe!



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The children have been making their own stars this week using different materials and fine motor skills. They have been learning to use scissors effectively and share their ideas together. They have been role playing being the teacher, choosing their own 'stars of the day!'



Many thanks to everyone for emailing your child's photographs to us. The children have really enjoyed telling us all about their special pictures. This opportunity enables the children to talk about their family and share their experiences with their friends.



We very much appreciate your contribution to our nursery fund, thank you to those who have paid through Parent Pay and to those who have given money directly. This has enabled us to buy different food for our snack table giving the children healthy options to choose from and to replenish our playdough ingredient stock. It is never too late to make this contribution if you haven't already! Happy birthday to Livia and Daisy who celebrated their 4th birthdays last week, we loved watching you blow out the candles on the playdough cake!

We have an exciting couple of weeks ahead of us so please keep an eye open for important dates for your diary.

## RECEPTION

Reception were in isolation at the start of last week, and we were all very happy to see each other back in school again on the Wednesday. It was good to see the children enjoying the outdoor space after almost 2 weeks inside.



Iona and Tianna made up songs about friendships and children at the water table exploring taller and the tallest containers.

In the field the children have been making rainbows using natural resources. They were just like 'Ella the Exploring Earth Worm', using their five senses to find what they need! Here are Jaiden's and Yusef's repeating patterns!





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Pine martens were busy at the wood work table this week, and Gryff and Poppy B worked together to build a car.



Poppy K and Chekinah retold the story of the Three Little Pigs using the puppet Theatre and Sebastian made a house for one of the little pigs.



We carried out our Phonics assessments last week and are pleased to see that all of the children have made progress. All children learn at their own pace, and in having 6 groups we are able to target our teaching to the needs of each group. We will be starting our new groups from Monday 30<sup>th</sup>. Some children will stay with the same teacher while some will have a different teacher for Phonics this time.



In Literacy this week we have started learning the story of 'The Gingerbread Man', retelling it with actions and in Maths we have started to learn about addition. The children have also been learning the songs for our Christmas show. We will be filming this on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and it will be uploaded to the school's private YouTube channel towards the end of term. You should have received a letter this week about costumes for each class. Please speak to your child's teacher if you haven't received one.

It has been great to see how many children have handed in their reading folders this week, and to receive comments in their reading records, thank you so much for this. Do remember to hand the book bag folders in every **Monday**. This gives the teachers time to change the books ready to hand out on the Wednesday. Those of you who are able to support your child to read a little every day at home will find they make more progress.

## YEAR 1

Year 1 have been really busy over the last few weeks. Last week we learned about Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita. The children acted the story out and then wrote their own versions of it.



We have also been doing lots of cooking.



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We made both soup and lemonade. The children learned about halves and quarters when chopping up the ingredients.



Mohammed worked like a 'Focused Fox' to sort every animal into their classes, asking his classmates for help when he wasn't sure. Everybody chose two animals to observe, draw and label for comparison.



We have continued learning about money. The children now use coin cards to 'pay' for resources around the classroom.

We've also started our Daily Support Reading groups again and have been enjoying sharing and discussing our books. We miss our parent helpers but hope that we'll be able to invite you in to help again next year!



This week Year 1 have been focusing on science, exploring how we categorise animals including humans into different classes and observing their similarities and differences in structure. Eva, Ruhi and Abria played a game of 'Memory' to identify reptiles, amphibians, mammals, fish, birds and insects.



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## December

**Wednesday - 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1.30 and 5.00pm via zoom**

**Wednesday - 16<sup>th</sup> December 1.30 and 5.00pm via zoom**

Open day talk and Q and A session. Due to the latest restrictions our tours will be changed to zoom meetings.

If you are interested, please email or call the school to get the links for the above meetings.

## Filming dates for Xmas Concerts

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> - Year 1**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> – Reception**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Nursery**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sandwich day Nursery AM**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sandwich day Nursery PM**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of school**

**Finish at 1.30**

**Nursery Am 8.45 - 10.45 finish**

**Nursery PM 11.30 – 1.30 finish**

**Full time 8.45 – 1.30/1.40 finish**



## **PTFA FESTIVE EVENTS!!!**



**George Tomlinson's Talent Extravaganza students send in a two-minute video of their talent. £1 entry and prizes to be won! Forms ready to be handed out on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec and deadline for entry 7<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

- **Christmas Treasure Trail – Sat 12<sup>th</sup> and Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - students follow the map around Leytonstone to collect clues and break the code. £2 per child or £5 for a family entry of 3+ children. A prize for every entry. Forms will be ready to be handed out 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.**
- **Non – uniform day – Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.**
- **£1 donations on the day.**