



Fortnightly – Friday 26 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged and happy since returning to school. They have settled back incredibly quickly, and after a few weeks of assessment and transition, it has been lovely to see learning return to normal.

Reception have been especially resilient, barely noticing that they have been confined to class bubbles. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the reception team for making the required adjustments in order to make this work. I would also like to thank the after school and breakfast club, PE coaches, and dinner staff who have all had to increase staff and plan accordingly to keep the bubbles apart and safe. We are going to continue with our separate class bubbles after the Easter break then reassess again at half term.

During the first week back, we celebrated a belated world book day, the children dressed up and we welcomed back Craig the Story Teller, who delivered three, very enjoyable live zoom shows.

Some children also took part in our sponsored read. Thank you to all those who took part to raise money for books, especially Finn in Pine Martens who raised a huge £200! Well done Finn! So far, we have raised £1,593!

On Monday the I noticed just how much the children are enjoying being back in school, having time to make the most of the provision and activities on offer. Here are some snaps from my walk.

In Nursery the children were making a cake for Ms Tuvey in the Mud Kitchen.



In reception Seb, putting the finishing touches to his house, and in Year 1 they looked very grown up, working in groups on repeated addition and Parker in Picasso made an incredibly long picture full of wonderful memories!



After Easter Mrs Rimmer will be continuing her teacher training placement at George Tomlinson but in Year 3. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Ademi in year 3, who will swap places and support Otter class until half term when Mrs Rimmer returns.

Don't forget the PTFA, Amazing Hair day on the last day of term, which is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.



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Please remember to stay safe over the holidays, and please remember, if you or your child is feeling unwell to take a test. We know from our experience at school that we can carry the virus without having one of the three main symptoms.

Have a wonderful Easter Break.

Jessica Mendelssohn  
EYFS Lead and Assistant Head teacher

## NURSERY



It has been amazing to have all our friends back at nursery and they have all settled back in as if they had never been away! We have also had some new children who have joined our sessions so a huge welcome to them and their families.

## **SCHOOL STREETS - CARS IDLING**

Please do not arrive early at school in order to avoid the school streets programme.

This defeats the whole purpose of its implementation, which is to reduce and improve air pollution levels around our school site which your children breathe in. Idling - which means leaving your engine running whilst your car is stationary - causes extremely high levels of pollution, not just for road users but also for children and adults inside the car itself.

Please work with us on this to keep our children's lungs healthy and safe.

Exposure to air pollution has serious health implications, especially for children, increasing the likelihood of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. Health experts say young people exposed to these toxic pollutants are more likely to grow up with reduced lung function and develop asthma.

Other scientific studies have highlighted the long-term damage air pollution is doing to people's health, from being linked to dementia to harming unborn babies and increasing the risk of cancer.



Ms Tuvey has been teaching us about the life cycle of a butterfly and we have been watching our caterpillars very carefully make their journey to the top of the pot and build their cocoons. We now have 4 beautiful butterflies and we will be releasing them today. Let's hope the sun stays shining for them!





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Emmet has been learning to use his imagination, creating an amazing boat that had a scanner on it that lets people in. The boat was taking him to Scotland to see his Grandma and Grandad. Well done Emmet!



We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTFA for donating the funding for our giant balancing scales. We have been using sand, water, bricks and lots of things see which is heavier or lighter. We love having the challenge of trying to get the scales to balance.



Many thanks to those of you who have contributed your £10 nursery fund for this term, if you would still like to make your contribution please see a member of the nursery team.

Wishing you all a great weekend!

**Pam Johnson**  
Nursery Teacher

## RECEPTION

The Reception children have settled back in to the old routines and are managing well with the new ones! Since being back in school we have been observing our pots of caterpillars which are now cocoons. We have everything crossed that the butterflies emerge before the Easter break...

In Maths we have been problem solving using 3D shapes: making shelters for different sized animals and deciding on the best shapes for the job. We have also talked about the recent Census and carried out our own counting exercise to find out which fruit is most popular at snack time.

We are having weekly Circle Time sessions where we discuss our feelings, so far, we have talked about what we are good at, what makes us happy and we have thought about something kind we have done for someone else and how that makes us feel.



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Each class has enjoyed their weekly visits to the field. So far this term we have done a scavenger hunt, made tiny shelters for finger puppets out of natural resources found at the field, and this week we talked about how being at the field makes us feel, and we made dough tree spirits to reflect our feelings.



In Hedgehogs Finley and Owen were busy making pictures for the 'President of North America'. They were unsure who this was so they used their phonics sounds to support them in writing a question into Google. They found out that it was Joe Biden and they found an envelope to address to him. They made stamps so that the letter would be 'paid for' and gave it to Miss Huff to send off!

We have started our daily reading sessions this week. The children are working in groups with a Teacher twice a week to read a book and carry out related word and sentence challenges.

We will be learning about Easter traditions next week and we hope you all have a lovely Easter break.



Otters adapting to the new restricted outdoor space by planning the layout of the climbing equipment together, then trying it out. They are wearing their World Book Day costumes.



Here's Mia, Ruby Poppy and Gabriella from Pine Martens hanging out together on our playing in the afternoon sun.

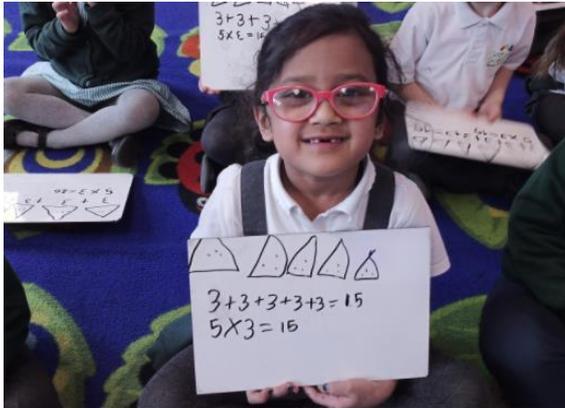
## YEAR 1

In year 1 we have been very busy since our return to school. The children have been working hard in their daily phonics groups and have started group reading with adults. There have been lots of exciting stories written by children in all three classes. In maths the children are learning about multiplication. We



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have been writing repeated addition sentences and turning them into multiplication sentences.



As the weather has improved year 1 have been using our outdoor resources lots. We have planted vegetables in the edible playground and are looking forward to eating them.



Some of the children spent time exploring volume and capacity in the water area and explored the properties of some natural materials in the tough tray.



The adults discussed the resources that the children would like to see in the outdoor classroom and are working with them to make it even more interesting.

## Dates for your Diary

### Nursery Sandwich days

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Am Nursery children pick up 12.45**

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – PM Children drop off 11.30 for their lunch**

## April

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> PTFA AMAZING HAIR DAY

Bring a £1 or more and wear amazing hair/wigs/hats/braids/scarfs etc

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – LAST DAY OF TERM finish at 3.15

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – children return to school for the Summer term.

## The Easter Trail!

During the Easter holidays, we will all need to entertain the kids, so the PTFA are organising an Easter Treasure Hunt. Keep an eye out in



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your child's bag for the Easter activity sheet which will arrive before the last day of term.

One activity sheet will go out to every child in school. This time we hope to triple the numbers who are hunting - with everyone taking a walk, solving clues, and for those who take their completed form to the Wild Goose Bakery (owned by GT school parents) where. The PTFA may provide a tiny Easter egg treat!

At the PTFA, we don't want any child to go without, so the activity is open to all. The activity sheet will have the PTFA account details on it, and pay pal. We suggest a donation of £2. But if you are in a position to donate more, please feel free. (Pay Pal link [https:// PayPal.me/georgetomptfa](https://PayPal.me/georgetomptfa))

## Amazing Hair Day!



## Uniform!

It's nearly summer term! If you are looking for shorts, skirts and summer dresses the second-hand uniform shop is here to help you. We have hundreds of items of good quality, low price uniform for sale. Summer dresses and shorts are all only £2-£3. Collection from the school office during term time and the Bushwood area of Leytonstone in school holidays. Please

email your order to [uniformptfa@gmail.com](mailto:uniformptfa@gmail.com)  
Since March 2020 we raised an amazing £1100 and rehoused over 500 pieces of uniform. Help us to do even more!

## Quiz Anyone!

If you would like to help out as quizmasters or by writing some fun and challenging questions then please email us [georgetompta@gmail.com](mailto:georgetompta@gmail.com) with the header QUIZ!