

Dear Parents

Thank you to all our parents who joined us for the Spring Concert on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, it was a lovely end to a very busy term at school.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, which gives you a round-up of the activities and events that have been going on since February half-term. These have included trips to the Musical Museum, Natural History Museum and the Globe Theatre. Everyone took part in a wonderful Science Week & World Book Day, our choir has sung at Threen House Nursing Home and our Eco-Committee have been out and about picking up litter to improve our local surroundings. We have had more sports success in Netball matches against Avenue House School and a week-long focus on Science.

### **Nursery Topic – People Who Help Us**

Our Nursery children have been learning about people who help us this term. They have been exploring the different occupations that are found in the community. The pupils loved dressing up and acting out some of the important jobs.

Doctors - Dr Bark (Isabella's dad) came to spend the afternoon with Nursery. The children were so excited to try out the different equipment that a doctor uses, and they had fun role playing with their parents during our special family time. "I want to be a doctor just like my daddy," said Isabella

Opticians and dentists - The children learnt what happens at the opticians and wrote prescriptions for their patients. They also found out about the importance of brushing their teeth.

The children loved dressing up as firefighters and putting out the pretend fire in the classroom. "When I grow up, I want to be a firefighter because they help rescue people," said Alfred

Finally, they also loved playing lollipop men & teachers. The children have really enjoyed this topic and have found out about so much about the people who help us.







## World Book Day

Our pupils and staff always get into the spirit of World Book Day and this year was no exception. We had some wonderful, inventive costumes and a day full of fun activities. The day started with an assembly and a parade so the children could show their costumes to each other. Suddenly four of our teachers dressed as Oompa Loompas and Charlie arrived and found the chocolate bar with the golden ticket (Jay in Year 4!). The children absolutely loved it!

During the rest of the day, there were activities including creating a book cover, a scavenger hunt and short story writing, the classes also did a 'Swap 'n' Read' where older pupils partnered up with their buddies in lower years to read and talk about their favourite books.







### More Sporting Success against Avenue House School

Clifton Lodge played a Netball Match against Avenue House at the end of February.

The children played 3 x 12-minute rounds and all 10 children were able to play at least two of those thirds. The teams were well matched and although the passing between Avenue House was very good, our team had more possession of the ball and always managed to get it back to our third and goal post. The GS and GA played well together and there were multiple shots at the hoop.

The final score was 2 – 1 to Clifton Lodge, well done to all that played. Here are a few quotes from our pupils:

"I really enjoyed playing against Avenue House and it was a nice experience." - Sam Year 5

"The Netball was fun as it was a great opportunity." - Phoebus Year 5

"The opposition was great and we were privileged to play them." - Enara Year 5

"I enjoyed getting to play against such a skilled school." - Noah Year 5

"Our opponents were amazing and should be proud of their performance." - Tofunmi Year 6

"It was a good match." - Tokio Year 6





## Lucy Noguera – Author Visit

Just before World Book Day, we were fortunate to have a local author, Lucy Noguera, visit the school to talk about her books “Herman Needs a Home” and “Swop the Satsuma-Sized Secret”. She spoke with the children about the process of writing her books and where she took inspiration from. The pupils, from Reception all the way to Year 6, were thoroughly engaged and greatly enjoyed the opportunity to meet Lucy. They revelled in the experience and learnt a great deal, showing amazing scholarly spirit and eagerness to learn. Many pupils excitedly awaited the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of her books. It truly was a fantastic experience for all.

"It was amazing to meet an author of children's books and get to know her." - Udham Year 5

"The author was very nice and it was a pleasure meeting her." Aryan - Year 6

"I loved that she used a little bit of both her dogs to make her character Swop!" - Blake Year 3

"I liked that she showed us sign language." - Woody Year 3

"It was great how she used facts from non-fiction and put them in her story." - Donya Year 4

"We learnt a lot of things about crabs." - Freya Year 1



## Year 5 Visit to the Globe Theatre

The Year 5 class, who have been learning about “Romeo and Juliet,” were excited to go on a trip to Shakespeare's Globe. Pupils were able to experience a tour of the outside and inside of the theatre, including learning when it was built (and rebuilt), what it was made from and why, and why it was designed in such a way. The class also learnt how religious symbolism was prevalent in the design and productions staged in the theatre. A bonus was that the class was lucky enough to witness part of a silent rehearsal for the upcoming “Tempest” production! From there the pupils attended a lively action workshop in which they were engaged in many ways, including: using their body language to depict various scenes and emotions; discussing the tone and pace of the play and why certain words or themes were used; an opportunity to perform one of the scenes in the play using what they had learnt. The children were wonderful representatives of both the school and their families as we received several compliments from the public on their behaviour, focus, and overall presentation. They can be proud of their efforts and commitment to the school value 'Optime' – they gave of their best.

Here are some of the pupils’ thoughts about the visit:

"I found it very interesting and the history behind it was fascinating." - Sam



"It was very enjoyable the whole day and the workshop was so fun and exciting." - Itsuki

"It seemed like a very special place with all its history and background so we were privileged to see it and visit it." - Enara

"It was awesome that we got to go to Shakespeare's Globe, watch a play, do activities and look around other famous landmarks." – Udham



### **Eco-Committee Litter Collection**

On Friday 3rd March, the Eco-committee, set to work litter picking around Walpole Park.

One of our SMART Targets this year is to 'Help keep the local environment clean and tidy,' and we decided to take action and give the local area a tidy. The children used litter pickers to find and collect litter on the park grounds to protect the local wildlife.

We were lucky with the weather and the children were very excited and keen to do the litter picking. We had lots of fun. We also used the opportunity to analyse the types of litter found and the biggest culprit

A big thank you to our Eco-committee members.





## Science Week

To launch our Science Week, our Science Teacher set up an experiment using the theme this year which is 'Connections'. All of our classes took part and experienced the experiment which used water mixed with washing up liquid and methane gas to produce bubbles. Volunteer pupils in each group then scooped up a handful of bubbles which we then set alight! No children were harmed in the making of this experiment!

At the end to our Science Week we had a Science Fair. All week our pupils from Nursery to Year 6 made their own Science poster or 3D model using the theme 'Connections'. There were some amazing creations, with the children showing incredible imagination and artistic ability. On the Friday morning we held a Science Fair and invited all our parents in to see the children's work. After registration, each class toured the school to see all the other Science projects. The children really enjoyed seeing what each class had done and pupils were on hand to explain their work to each other.

Thank you parents for supporting this, it was lovely to have you in school sharing the excitement!

In addition it was Red Nose Day, with our children coming in dressed in a red item of clothing and making a donation to receive a red nose or sticker – we raised £455 which included a school donation of £183.





## Year 2 Music Lesson

Year 2 are learning about Instruments used in an Orchestra (Woodwind Instruments in particular this week).

Miriam (in Year 6) was so kind to visit the lesson and play the flute for the children. She described how it works, the range of notes you can play on a flute and the similarity and differences with the tin whistle.

The pupils were very curious and asked lots of questions:

Lenny – "When was the flute invented?"

Tara – "When did you start learning to play the flute?"

Finley – "What is it made of?"



## Choir Visit to Threen House

Thank you to Threen House Nursing Home for welcoming our school choir to visit and sing to their residents. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit the Nursing Home which is located close to our school in Mattock Lane and we would love to be able to return again soon. We hope all the residents enjoyed the singing and instrumentalists.





### **Year 3 Trip to the Musical Museum**

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to The Musical Museum which houses an amazing collection of automated musical instruments. The children were fascinated by a demonstration of many of the instruments and had the opportunity to try out some of them.

Here are some of the pupils thoughts about the visit:

"I loved all the instruments in the Musical Museum but my favourite ones were the musical boxes. Some originated from about 1826."- Laila

"I enjoyed everything but if I had to pick, I would pick the Theremin because if you put your hand near it, it would make a sound and I also liked the self-playing piano" – Miles

"I really enjoyed the organs and my favourite was the self-playing piano but the best one was the Theremin because you can move your hands and it starts making a sound. I liked looking inside the pianos and checking how they work." – Aleksandra



### **Year 1 Trip to the Natural History Museum**

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, the Year 1 class visited the Natural History Museum.

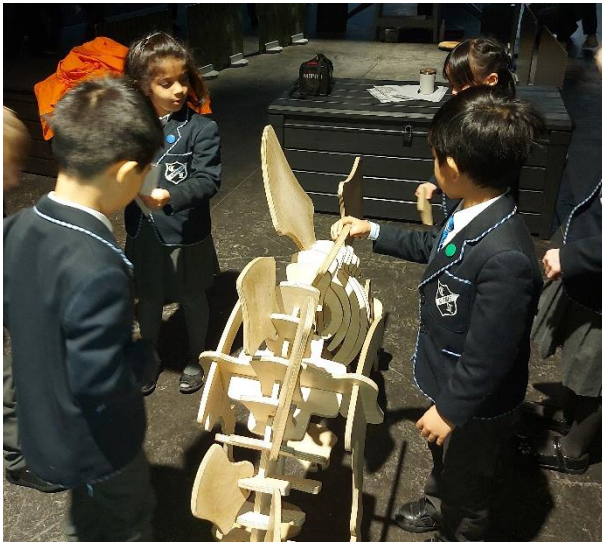
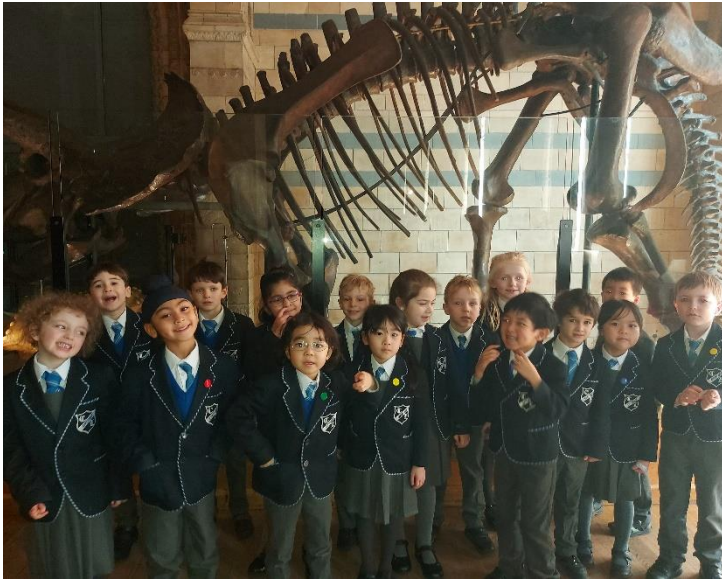
The children were invited by the Natural History Museum to become palaeontologists for a day. First, they listened to the story of 'Sophie' the stegosaurus and found out how the fossil dinosaur was found. They eagerly participated in a hands-on workshop where they demonstrated teamwork in putting together three massive 3D jigsaw stegosaurus. The children completed the jigsaws and then examined the different parts of the dinosaur's anatomy identifying the head, plates and spikes. They used their new knowledge and skills as they viewed the most complete fossil stegosaurus in the world to identify the different parts of the anatomy. This helped during their interactive learning session with the museum workshop leader in completing a poster about Sophie. It was a fantastic day at the Natural History Museum. Some feedback from our Year 1 pupils:

Rexley – "The best part of the field trip was seeing the T-Rex that could move."

Victor - "I loved seeing how big Sophie's skull was."

Shiori - "I loved building Sophie's bones."





### **Ducklings in Nursery & Reception!**

Our Nursery and Reception classes have some special visitors - the ducklings have arrived! They hatched on Wednesday and after spending some time drying off in the incubator they moved over to their brooder box.

Kloe said, "I love watching the ducklings eat."

Saki said, "The ducklings are so pretty."

After observing the ducklings, Parisa said, "The ducklings have webbed feet."

Borna in Nursery said he loves them, "because they are so fluffy!"

Diana said, "They are so cute and they have different coloured feathers."





## Year 1 Art – Clay Modelling

During their Art lesson on Tuesday 23rd March, the Year 1 pupils were exploring clay. This included pinching, pulling, rolling and moulding the clay. They then followed this up with making some mini nature models.



## Year 3 Art – Still-Life

The children in Year 3 have been studying still-life this half-term. They started by sketching and observing fruits and vegetables and finished the topic with a beautiful still-life composition using watercolour. They were all rightly so proud of their work.





## Art Club

The children have enjoyed Art Club this term and produced some fantastic work, which is being displayed on the Middle Floor.

We have created a classic Mondrian style art piece, a Paul Klee – ‘Arrival of the Bridegroom, 1933’, some Andy Warhol style art prints and our own Vincent Van Gogh ‘Starry Night’, using oil paints, watercolour, felt tips, coloured pencils, and paint.

Well done to all the children from Art Club.





## Spring Concert

We had a wonderful celebration on our last day of term at the Church of Christ the Saviour. Thank you to everyone who came along to support our pupils. The performances from all the children including the choir, instrumentalists, and poetry readings were superb, I feel so proud of all our pupils and thank them for their dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you to Mrs Velkova for all her hard work in putting together the music for this event, making the concert so enjoyable for everyone.



A big well done to all our pupils who received House Point and Character Point certificates as well as those who received Pen Licences – you have all worked very hard and we are so proud of your achievements.

Finally, we ended the term with a visit from the ISI inspectors. Thank you to all the parents who completed yet another survey, we appreciate your support. The inspectors were so impressed with our pupils, staff and warm, welcoming community. Their comments regarding the academic and personal development of our children were very positive and we look forward to sharing the official report with you once it has been published.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter break.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Belsito', is written below the text 'Kind regards'.

Michael Belsito

Head