

ARNETT HILLS JMI SCHOOL

INTEGRITY

Friday 1st December 2023

Dear All,

In assembly this week we have been thinking about our school rules: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Kind. We have looked at what these behaviours look like in practice around school and how we can ensure we are keeping to these rules.



Eagle class took their maths learning outside. They investigated the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes, solving problems and creating questions in their groups.



Eco Team Local Consortium—Local schools working together

As an eco-council representative, my job is to make Arnett Hills a greener place. On Wednesday, the Yr6 and Yr 4 eco council visited York House school. We went around different classrooms, talking about subjects like healthy lifestyles and what we can do to make our school more eco-friendly. We thought of some really inventive ideas. We would like to do a clothes swap, which is where you bring in clothes that you don't want anymore and swap them for clothes you want to wear. We would also like to do more meat-free days. We also want some solar panels. It would be great if we could use lots of our ideas to make a better environment. My favourite fact is that bees like to sleep in leaf piles for the winter. It was an amazing experience. So many different schools coming together to talk about the exact same things. One volunteer said that we were all raindrops coming together to make a difference. I hope everyone, including parents, will get together to build our community. *Report by Heidi—Eagle class Thank you to Mrs Dainton for organising this event and taking the children.*



Governor Day

It was a pleasure to share our day last Friday with so many of our school governors. The aim of the day was for governors to gain an insight into the school in action, to see the impact of recent developments and action points, to see how current actions for school improvement are being addressed and to find out more about being a child or adult at our school.

We started the day by hearing from some children about the impact of our newly re-designed curriculum. Governors were impressed with how clearly the children spoke to them. Ruby, Subashree, James G and Hugh from Hawk class gave a very detailed overview of how their learning had been linked in their 'Stone Age' theme this term. How their English, use of literature, art, DT and science have all come together in learning. Buzzard class gave a very clear picture of what subjects their Roman learning had tied together, including history, geography, English and DT. The knowledge that the children had gave them some very clear justifications as to whether or not they would have liked to have lived in the Stone Age or Roman times.

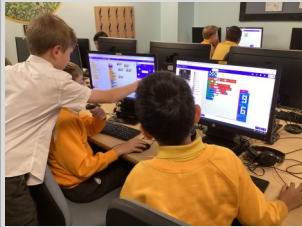


We visited classrooms to look at reading in action and the impact of recent training for all staff. Governors considered behaviour, safeguarding, relationships and how all aspects were evidenced in what they saw. Staff provided updates to governors on work that has been going on in PE, Early Years and Maths. The governors joined us for lunch where they were able to speak with children, as well as observing our celebration assembly. It was particularly nice for the children to be able to thank Ash Patil for all his hard work and dedication that he has given us as a long-standing Chair. The children designed a beautiful card and wrote the words—'you will always be a part of our school history.'



Governors will now consider 'what next' in order to support the school's improvements.

This week Buzzard class took part in a live BBC lesson about the Romans, where they became historians and had to solve a historical mystery. They learnt more about the role of an archaeologist and the Roman City of Vindolanda. Knowing that good historians use clues they find to understand the past, they solved the mystery of the unusual occupants of this Roman city who, it turns out, were an auxiliary soldier (a non-Roman citizen), a wealthy Roman lady (whose detailed and elaborate sandal has been carefully preserved) and a child (whose toy sword had been discovered).



Code club have been demonstrating many of our learning behaviours after school, especially collaborating to work on scratch projects and using Microsoft MakeCode to program our new micro:bits. The final code club session will be Tuesday 6th December but if pupils would like more opportunity to explore computing there will be a STEM club in the summer term.

Watford Schools Trust took an assembly today where we learned about the tradition of Christingles. Ask your child if they can tell you what each part of the Christingle represents.



Sports Ambassadors

As part of our improvements in school sport and PE, we welcome 4 new sports ambassadors to their role. Stevie, Rosie, TJ and Seth each gave a very good presentation justifying why they would fulfil the role well, resulting in them being democratically voted in by peers. They will support sports staff, drive initiatives and support sports at school including lunchtimes and meet with children to gain pupil voice. Well done for giving such good reasons as to why you thought you would be good in role.

SPORTS
AMBASSADOR

Dates for next week:

4th Dec—Yr4 Rapid Fire Cricket SSP @Ricky School
8th Dec—Wear your Christmas jumper to school day—all final donations for the PTA Christmas Fair

Upcoming Dates:

12th Dec—Eagle class trip to Hendon museum
13th Dec 9.15 —Rec/KS1 Christmas Show—Owl and 1/2 Kestrel families **surname A-M**
14th Dec 9.15 —Rec/KS1 Christmas Show—Merlin and 1/2 Kestrel families **surname N-Z**
15th Dec—PTA Christmas Fair in school and Carols by Candlelight
18th Dec—2pm Eagle class WWII Tea dance for parents
20th Dec—Whole school to Watersmeet Panto- collect from there at 1pm End of term
8th Jan 2024—Term begins for children

We are very excited to welcome Miss James who works with us in partnership with Herts University. She joins Hawk class and will be here for large periods of time throughout the rest of the year.



Communication sent out this week:

Home Learning for each class
HCL Christmas Dinner—all orders in please.

