

**Autumn term –
November –
December 2023**



As the days get shorter and colder as we head into winter, we have continued to keep busy and productive with the lights of Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas bringing light in to our days and shine brightly this half term. Never a dull moment....

Class news

Unicorn class (Nursery)

Children in Unicorn class have continued to develop their early literacy and maths skills within our Jungle topic. They have learning about counting principles through Jungle themed games, rhymes and activities, such as signing 'Five Little Speckled Frogs', and counting out how many bananas to feed to the hungry monkey. We also turned the floor of our classroom into a giant canvas and practised our pre-writing skills by copying pictures from Jungle themed books and stories.



Mermaid class (Reception)

The EYFS went to Willows Activity Farm to see the Christmas and Winter Wonderland decorations.



They met Santa Claus, chose a toy to take home, decorated gingerbread cookies, went on a tractor, saw farm animals, received a DIY stuffed toy, and played at the biggest soft play area they had ever seen.

Dragon class (Key Stage 1)

The class went on a trip to the London Zoo where they saw many animals that they have been learning about in Literacy and Science. They saw tigers, lions, sloths, penguins, parrots and of course monkeys. The children were enthralled with all the different kinds of monkeys and they were trying to mimic



Learn, grow and flourish

them, ready for their roles in the Christmas production. They were also lucky enough to meet Mrs Claus and her elf outside Santa's Grotto!

Werewolf class (Lower Key Stage 2)

Werewolf class have been working on their own adaptation of the Jungle Book, and they were excited about



discussing their fantastic ideas in a group about new characters and settings before completing their written work. They provided their own ideas, such as Mowgli, a deaf person living alone in the jungle, and a trip to Cyprus to meet new deaf people. In just two weeks, they finished writing, and they were happy with their new version of the story. Through rehearsal with the whole school, they practiced their lines for their role as elephants in the Jungle Book Christmas production.



Vampire class (Upper Key Stage 2)

Vampire Class have been reading The Jungle Book, in preparation for our Christmas Show. In their



Literacy lessons, the pupils learnt how to write a summary of the story, which they enjoyed. During History lessons, the children learnt about Mahatma Gandhi, the renowned activist who played a significant role in India's fight for freedom. They wrote fact files about him, including his early life and reason behind of his involvement in the protests. The children also compared the way of life in both the village and the city of Morden in India.

Staff news

We welcome new Teaching Assistants **Ciaran McCarthy** and **Georgia Dimopoulou** to our staff team. **Morag Makey** also joined us in September teaching Werewolf class one day per week.



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Sports and PE

The children enjoyed Dance lessons in PE this half term with Camden Coach, Emily Malenson, creating dance sequences for the Christmas play. We now look forward to volleyball with a Camden coach for PE in the Spring Term.



BSL Curriculum launch

We are extremely proud that we launched our first ever BSL curriculum at FBS on Friday 1st December with over 200 people attending this very special event. Huge thanks



goes to Catherine for leading a very successful launch with the support of Lisa, Mischa and our staff volunteers. Everyone enjoyed the programme, which included a range of speakers, food and drink and celebratory cake and bubbles at the end. The BSL curriculum is free and available to download on our school website.

Christmas performance

Well done to all the children for a fantastic performance of the 'The Jungle book' on Tuesday



19th and Wednesday 20th December. The show was a highlight this term, with some excellent performers on stage! Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make this a success, especially our production director Lisa! Thank you also to all the parents/families and school community for coming along, and for supporting our fundraising.

Nut free school

A member of our school community has incredibly severe allergy to nuts which can be triggered by airborne particles. We have taken advice from Camden Council and ask that no foods containing nuts are brought into school. We ask that staff, parents, and visitors are mindful of this.



Friends of Frank Barnes

We are still looking for interested parents/family members to join the FOFB, the school's charity, as trustees. Thank you to Mischa Cooke, FOFB chair, for leading the FOFB. She will be stepping down, but if we do not have new trustees join, we will need to close down the charity. Please contact me or Mischa if you are interested in joining the FOFB.

Save the Children

Thank you to all the pupils and staff who wore Christmas jumper on Friday 15th December and donated £1 for charity. We raised £57 which has been donated to Save the Children children's charity from FBS.



School attendance

Our whole school pupil attendance is at **93%** so far this year, which is above our target. Well done to our pupils who have been attending school regularly this term. Let's continue this achievement and ensure we meet or exceed our target for the rest of the year! Remember all leave of absence requests must be given in advance with evidence of appointments, reasons, etc.



Diary dates for Spring Term (1st half):

Wednesday 7th February, 1-2pm:

Secondary Transfer meeting for Year 5 parents

Wednesday 7th February:

Parents Afternoon

Wednesday 7th February:

Safer Internet Day

Friday 9th February:

Last day of 1st half term

SPRING HALF TERM: 12th – 16th February 2024



Wishing all our families, staff, governors and pupils Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



School re-opens for the 1st half of the

**Spring Term on
Tuesday 9th January 2024**



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