



Welcome to the new 2023/24 academic year. It's been a lovely half term and we've all settled into our new classes and been busy as usual.

## Class news

### Unicorn class (Nursery)

Both EYFS classes had the chance to meet some 8 week old miniature dachshunds on one of our weekly trips to support their developing understanding of the world. Many of the children had never seen such tiny puppies before, but they all did a fantastic job at being careful, calm and gentle with the little fur babies. Huge thanks to the Halls Life team at UAL for donating this incredible experience for our children.



### Mermaid class (Reception)

Mermaid Class have been enjoying their cooking lessons this term. They have made face pizzas, lemonade, banana bread, and fruit ice lollies. Our favourite cooking lesson was making happy face pizzas.



### Dragon class (Key Stage 1)

Dragon class and the Spike group went to the Young V&A museum to look at toys from the past and to see how they have changed over time. In History, we have been learning about the differences from our grandparents' time to the present from housing to clothing to jobs and more specifically – toys.



### Werewolf class (Lower Key Stage 2)

This term, Werewolf class enjoyed learning about the Gunpowder Plot. They were fascinated by the story of Guy Fawkes and his failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605. They created a newspaper report, which included information about Guy Fawkes's arrest and the



consequences of the plot. They also went to the Houses of Parliament to see the actual location of the gunpowder plot.

### Vampire class (Upper Key Stage 2)

Vampire Class have enjoyed this term's topic – "Around the World in 80 Days" linked to the well-known story book. The children learned about different countries around the world to find out more about their cultures, clothes, foods, languages, flags, music and much more. They enjoyed cooking different foods in Food Technology lessons. In Literacy, they wrote a fact file about Jules Verne, the author of the book.



### Sports and PE

We have enjoyed cricket this half term with Scott Ellis, cricket coach, developing our hand-eye coordination, throwing and catching skills, teamwork and agility.

We are looking forward to starting our Dance PE lessons after half term, October to December 2023 with Camden Coach, Emily Malenson, to create dance sequences for our Christmas show.



### Parents afternoon & Parent engagement

Thank you to all the parents that attended a meeting with their child's classteacher on 4<sup>th</sup> October to discuss their child's progress.

As with last year, we would like all parents to arrange with their child's classteacher a time to observe their child in class, ideally before the EHCP annual review meeting. Observing in class will give parents a better understanding of their child's communication, behaviour, learning and interaction in school.

### National TA Day

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September we had a special assembly to celebrate and thank our hardworking Teaching Assistants who do so much for the school to support the teachers and children. We are truly grateful for everything they do and deserve much recognition for all their support.



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## WFD International Week of Deaf People

From Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September we uploaded short videos to Seesaw and our social media platforms on a different theme each day to celebrate the International Week of Deaf People.



This year's **International Day of Sign Languages** them on 23<sup>rd</sup> September is: "A world where Deaf people everywhere can sign anywhere."

## BSL Celebration Day

We held our annual BSL Celebration Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. This year the theme was the BSL Curriculum launch.

In the morning, we held an assembly to explain the new BSL Curriculum that has been created and how this will be launched on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.



Afterwards, the children were asked to create four different collages depicting the themes of Education, Culture, Society and Employability. They all thoroughly enjoyed this activity. Their work will be included in the BSL Curriculum Launch display.

The day flew by and we finished off the day with three delicious cakes cooked by Leyla – thank you! A big 'well done' to the children for their excellent behaviour and hard work.



## Family Fun Day

We held another very successful Family Fun Day at the British Library on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. This year's theme was 'Our World' and was organized jointly between Frank Barnes, the British Library, the British



Museum and Camden Family Learning. A total of 956 people attended the event, with 95 Deaf families from across London taking part, and 11 FBS families coming along, which was fantastic! A highlight was the Signing Stars choir sign singing 'Let it go' by children from FBS and KCA.



## Christmas performance

Everyone in our school community voted for the title of this year's annual Christmas show. We are delighted to announce that this year our Christmas Show will be 'The Jungle book'. The children have been told their characters and will start rehearsing after half term. Please make sure you note the date of the performance for parents on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**.



## Parent and pupil surveys

We recently analysed the responses from the pupil and parent surveys from the summer term. Thank you for returning the surveys. We are pleased that the feedback has been very positive with so many things that both the children and parents like and are happy with about the school. These have been shared with everyone on Seesaw, including BSL videos from Catherine.



## School attendance

Our whole school attendance is at **89%** so far this year, which is below our target. Please make sure your child attends school every day, unless they are unwell or have a hospital/medical appointment. Please complete a Leave of Absence (LOA) request form with evidence of their appointment (letter, text, email) and given to us well in advance.



## Diary dates for Autumn Term (2<sup>nd</sup> half):

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**November:**

Christmas show workshops

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

BSL Curriculum Launch

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December:**

Christmas lunch

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am:**

Christmas Show for the community

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm:**

Christmas show for parents/families

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2.30pm:**

Last day of Autumn Term



**Have a good half term holiday!**

**School re-opens for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the  
Autumn Term on  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**



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