

## Key Dates for your Diary

**Friends and Families Workshops**  
Wednesday 6th December @ 2.30pm  
Wednesday 13th December @ 2.30pm

**Wednesday 6th December**  
Year 3 & 4  
Educational Visit to the British Museum

**Thursday 7th December**  
National Christmas Jumper Day  
*Save The children*

**Friday 8th December**  
Year 1 & 2  
Educational Visit to the  
Natural History Museum

**Winter Festive Week—see Page 2!**

**Winter Warmer**  
Wednesday 20th December  
**3.15-4.45pm**

**Last Day of Term –2pm Finish**  
Thursday 21st December

**Inset Day**  
Friday 22nd December

**Winter Break**  
Monday 25th December 2023–  
Friday 5th Jan 2024

**First Day Back– Mon 8th Jan 2024**

Dear Friends and Families,

Firstly I would like to thank everyone who has encouraged and supported the school and myself through the difficult times we are all experiencing. We appreciate the challenges that children and families are facing and work hard to ensure the children's routines and school day run as smoothly as possible. Your positivity and words of encouragement have been very welcoming. Thank you.

Please can I remind parents and carers that for the health and safety of the children, staff and wider community, smoking outside or near the school gates is not permitted.

I would like to take this opportunity to again wish Diana- who leaves us tomorrow, and Janet and Vera—who leave at the end of the term a fond farewell and all the best for the future.

Our winter festive season starts tomorrow with our search for mischief making elves around the school. Teachers will post pictures on tapestry or google classroom for you to follow and discuss what they get up to at home.

We are delighted to update you with our new office hours of 8am to 6pm. There will be an admin member of staff available in the office during these hours. We hope this helps to support you with communication, especially for our working parents.

It has been a busy and challenging term. It is a time of change and transition as we look forward towards the spring and the new year ahead.

It's hard to believe the month of December is here. The festive season is upon us and will provide the opportunity to relax and celebrate.

**I look forward to seeing you all at our winter warmer on  
Wednesday December 21st 3.15—4.30pm**

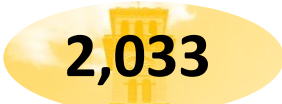
## House Points

### Year totals so far...

*Its so close!*



**Paradise Park**



**Clock Tower:**



**Cally Bridge**



**Market Road**



## Our Festive Winter Month...

December 1st



Elf on the shelf begins-Talk to your child about our December

### Thursday 7th December

National Christmas Jumper Day

*Save The children*

*Please support your child to wear a festive jumper, add something at home to represent the winter season, and bring along a gold coin to donate to charity.*

*Thank You!*



### Winter Festive Celebrations & Events



Our preparations for the festive season are underway.

They begin with our school wide 'Elf on the Shelf' advent event starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Monday 18 December	Years 1 to 6	Movie Monday (school trip)
	EYFS	Movie Monday
	Childrens Centre Festive Morning Tea	Time TBC
Tuesday 19 December	School Christmas Dinner	
Wednesday 20 December	EYFS Nativity	Time TBC
	Winter Warmer	3.15 to 4.30pm
Thursday 21 December	Last day of the School Term for Children	School finishes at 2pm
Friday 22 December	Inset Day for staff	

### How Can You Help

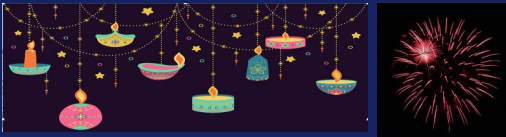
From 1<sup>st</sup> December we are asking for donations of:

- ◆ Unwanted gifts for regifting. There will be a stall at our winter warmer where children can purchase a gift for members of their family for £1 each.
- ◆ Christmas donations for our class Hampers. Raffle tickets will go on sale in the last week of term
- ◆ Volunteering for the Winter Warmer

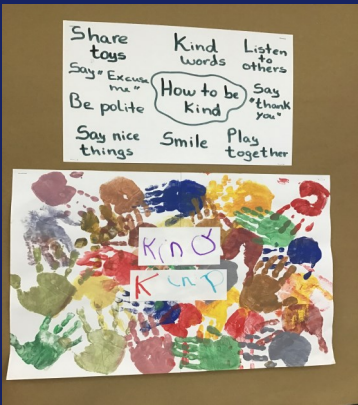
**Please give as generously as you are able to, in support of our families, children and the school.**

## Foundation Stage — Reception & Nursery

In Nursery, we have been looking at celebrations. Whilst exploring Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights the children made their own Rangoli patterns and salt dough Diva candles.



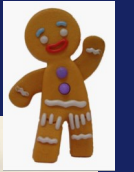
Last week was an 'International Nursery Rhyme Week'. The children in the Early Years across the world learnt five nursery rhymes; 1. Jack and Jill, 2. Hickory Dickory Dock, 3. Row, row, row your boat 4. Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes, and 5. The Wheels on The Bus. Our children in Reception, the Nursery and some from the Children's Centre had a concert in the hall where they sang the five nursery rhymes for their parents



As part of Anti-Bullying week, we have brainstormed ideas on how to be kind in school. Afterwards, the class worked together to produce a poster with handprints to represent their gentle, kind hands.



In English during the past two weeks, the children have been learning about Traditional Tales. They have read Goldilocks and The Three Bears and The Gingerbread Man. They have enjoyed re-enacting the story using puppets to re-tell the stories.



We have read 'The Little Red Hen', a story in which the red hen has to work alone, from planting and growing wheat to baking bread. Here in the Nursey, we baked our own bread and everyone was willing to help.



We have also been learning about Diwali, the Festival of Light and how people celebrate the festival. The children made some diva lamps out of salt dough and then decorated them with paint and glitter. Look how pretty they are with battery candles in them!





## Years One, Two and Three



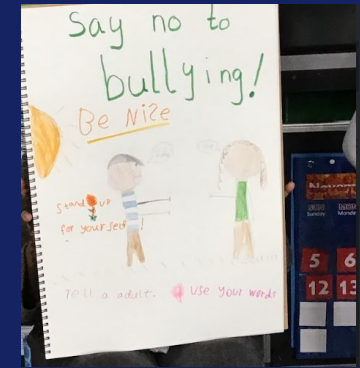
In English Year 1 have been learning about non-fiction texts and we have been identifying the features of non-fiction text. This week we will be writing a report all about penguins!



In science Year 1 have been looking at the 5 senses, and we have been conducting experiments to test our senses.



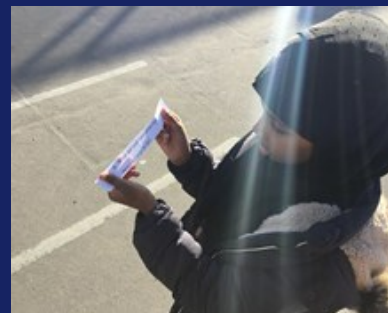
### Year 2



### Year 3



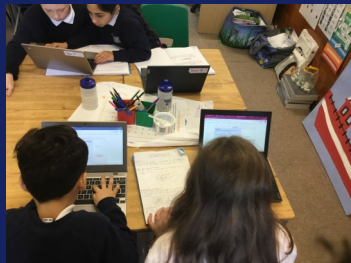
Year 3 Treasure Hunt - As part of our 'Tomb Raiders', children took on the role of archaeologists, using clues to discover hidden questions around the school.



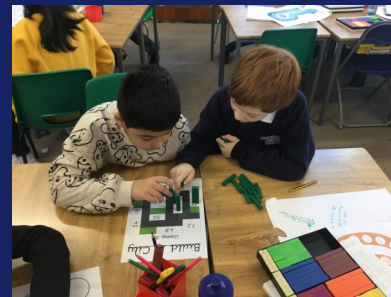
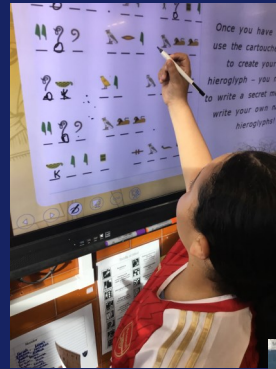


## Years Four & Five

This term, Year 4 have been learning about Ancient Egyptians! We have been on an archaeologist treasure hunt, decoded hieroglyphics and have even mummified some fruit! We have used our own re-



search to create non-chronological reports on fascinating topics within Ancient Egypt such as Gods, Pharaohs



Our focus in Maths this term has been multiplication and division and we have been learning our times tables in a variety of fun ways. Now, many of us can even multiply 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number AND multiply three digits together!

In Science, we have been looking at

Changing States and have done lots of experiments including melting chocolate and re-creating the water cycle inside a bowl!



### The Courtly Courier



At the echoes of tribal drums reverberate through the kingdom, King Vortigan finds himself in the midst of a storm of discontent. Citizens from all walks of life are voicing their frustration and dissatisfaction with the monarch's perceived lacklustre response to the tribal rebellions led by the Paris and Snow.

The unrest has been steadily growing in recent months as tribal tensions escalate, fuelled by longstanding grievances and territorial disputes. Many expected King Vortigan to demonstrate strong leadership and decisive action to quell the uprisings, but the reality has fallen short of public hope.

Political figures within the kingdom have started to distance themselves from the monarch, with some openly calling for a change in leadership. Noble houses, once staunch supporters of King Vortigan, are now reconsidering their allegiance as they voice their shifting sides of public opinion.

**WE WANT VORTI-GONE!**

### Year 5

From exploring the realms from the Anglo-Saxon invasion to the vastness of our solar system, Year 5 embraced a dynamic half term! Some of you may have witnessed the our assembly, as one brave soul becomes King Vortigan, and the children inventively decided to use a multitude of acting, video editing, and musical skills to bring the story of the Anglo-Saxon arrival to life.



In science this half term, the children learned about space, whilst using the amazing space which is our outdoor classroom where fruits transformed into planets, unveiling their cosmic scale — Jupiter as a watermelon and Mercury a mere peppercorn. From spooky Halloween attire to charity-driven costumes for Children in Need, our vibrant year echoes with history, science, and heartwarming festivities.



# Memories from CARDFIELDS 2023







Online: [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

The Children's Commissioner has launched [The Big Ambition survey](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition) to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election. Please share this link or QR code with young people so they can have their say:

<https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.

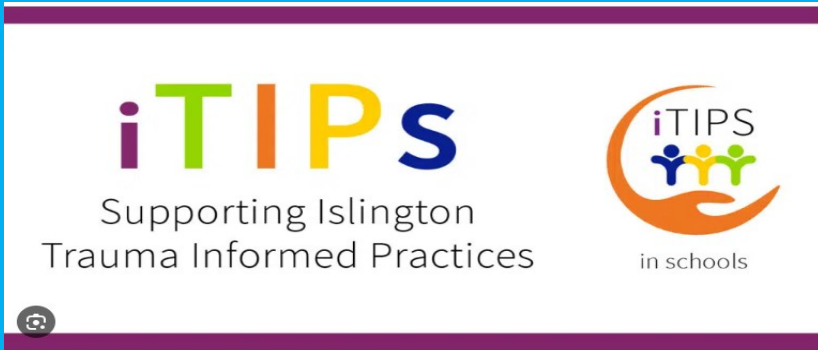


The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched the big ambition survey, a national survey of children and young people across England.

It is important to us that our children get the opportunity to be heard on what they think is important! The challenges facing us all will impact on their future. In the lead up to the general election please support your child to



take their thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision makers. We want to make sure our children can be heard. We will be discussing 'The Big Ambition' in class and supporting anyone who may want to, or need support to complete it in school

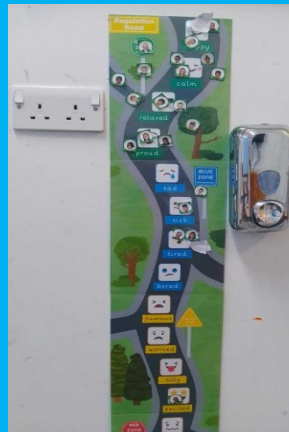


Islington Borough Council developed iTIPS (Islington Trauma-Informed Practices in Schools) in September 2017 and launched with a pilot group of five primary schools. Since then 29 schools have taken part in the programme. Robert Blair has been fortunate enough to be one of these schools to be chosen to embark on this two year development journey.

### What is iTIPs?

iTIPs is a whole school approach to supporting children, families and school staff in understanding and working with complex development trauma and the impact of this work.

An iTIPs working group has been set up and have discussed having a shared and consistent approach to self-regulation. By the Yr 5 classroom entrance there is a 'regulation road' where children can move their faces throughout the day to show how they are feeling.



**To celebrate Christmas and the festive season we are asking for donations of:**

**Unwanted gifts for regifting for a stall at our winter warmer fair where children can purchase a gift for £1.**



**Christmas donations for our class hampers.**

**Please give as generously as you are able to, in support of our families, children and the school.**



**Thank You!**





## ATTENDANCE

Target 96.5%

### Best Attendance this month

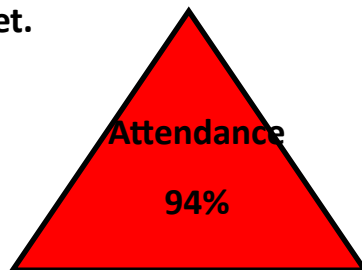
Year 4: 96.7%



### Best Punctuality this month

Year 4: 99.2%

Unfortunately, due to high levels of sickness and a number of persistent absentees we have not met our target.



We expect every child to be in school, on time, every day!



We remind you that all holidays during term time will not be authorised and will incur a fine from the Local Authority.

**Christmas**  
TREE APPEAL 2023



Please support the Christmas Tree Appeal this year.

The MPS is working in partnership with The Childhood Trust to provide Christmas presents for children in London who are experiencing poverty.

To donate scan the code or visit [www.metchristmastreeappeal.org/donate](http://www.metchristmastreeappeal.org/donate)



The annual Mets Christmas Tree Appeal is now in full swing. The appeal allows disadvantaged children to receive a well deserved gift over the festive period and we are working in collaboration with the childhood trust to facilitate this. Full details are included on the QR code.

**Children  
in Need**

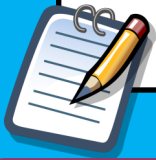


Thank You to everyone who joined in our 'Children in Need Day' and for your donations on Friday the 17th of November by wearing your best spotty outfits. We were able to raise

**£100.55!**



# Little Reminders...



Year 1 & 2

Visit to the Natural History



Museum

Fri 8th

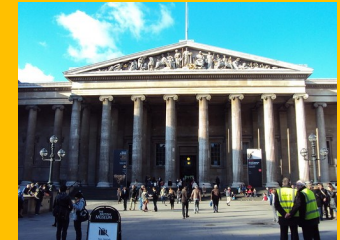
December

Inset Day

Friday 22nd Dec

Year 3 & 4

Visit to the  
British  
Museum



Wed 6th December

Winter Half-Term Break  
Mon 25th December 2023-  
Friday 5th January 2024

20th December

Winter Fair

19th December  
Christmas Lunch

15th January  
Deadline for Reception  
Applications

First day back is Mon  
8th January 2024



20th Dec  
EYFS Nativity