

HALLEY NEWSLETTER

Regular news updates from Halley Primary School



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What another busy term it has been. Thank you to all the parents that took the time at the start of the term to share their thoughts on helping us to make Halley an even better school. We had some really helpful suggestions. The next coffee morning will be in the second week when we get back, we will be exploring the Halley Curriculum with you and what you think your children should be learning. Please come along and share your thoughts. I wish you all a very restful and peaceful holiday break.



KEY DIARY DATES

Easter Holidays
Monday 8th to Friday 19th April
Monday 20th May
Not Forgetting—22nd April is Bank Holiday Monday

Back to School Tuesday 23rd
 Healthy Schools Week!

Year 6 SAT's Parents Meeting.
Monday 23rd April

Year 2 SAT's Parents Meeting.
Monday 25th April

Headteacher Coffee Morning
Monday 29th April

Phonics Screening Check Parents Workshop
Friday 3rd May

Healthy Schools Week
20th — 24th May

EYFS, KS1 & KS2 Sports Day
Monday 20th May

SRE Parent Information Meetings
Come and find out about the SRE Curriculum and what it means for your child.

Yr3 & Yr4 SRE Parents Meeting
Tuesday 21st May

Yr1 & Yr2 SRE Parents Meeting
Wednesday 22nd May

Yr5 & Yr6 SRE Parents Meeting
Thursday 23rd May

No School Monday 3rd June
 Teacher INSET Day

Dragons' Den!

On Friday 22nd March, children from years 3, 5 and 6 visited the offices of **The Canary Wharf Group** to take part in a Dragons' Den style presentation.

At Halley, we value all aspects of our education including our fantastic music provision. We love the fact that our children have the opportunity to learn either the violin or cello in year 4 as well as take part in singing lessons. However, due to ongoing cuts in government funding – ensuring future provision may be challenging to say the least.

As such, our pitch was to ask Canary Wharf Group for a contribution to our music provision. Abdullah, introduced the pitch and his team. This was followed by two fantastic music performances from Radiya, Naima, Kelsie, Ahdia, Somaiyah and Kiki. Finally, Jihadul explained why he loved music so much and even showed off his robotic dancing skills! The team were fantastic. Dale from Canary Wharf Group was blown away and clearly impressed by their passion, flair for presentation and confidence. It was a proud moment for Halley and it paid off – Dale decided he was so impressed that he presented us with a cheque, there and then for **£2000!**



Well done, Team Halley!



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUATLITY ALERT

Morning gates open at 8:30am and the School bell and whistle will go at 8.45am. Please make sure your child is on time.

Thank you from the staff at Halley.



Nursery (part-time)	92%
Nursery (full-time)	93%
Reception	92%
Year One	96%
Year Two	97%
Year Three	95%
Year Four	96%
Year Five	97%
Year Six	97%

This Spring term we have achieved **95.3%**. We still have lots of work to do!!!

NEWS & INFORMATION



NEW TASTY LUNCH MENU

From April 1st there will be a new lunch menu providing children on a two week rolling basis with more tasty and healthy choices. Each day of the week has a different food theme: Monday is 'Planet Earth Day', Tuesday is 'Street Food Day' Wednesday is 'Traditional Day', Thursday is 'World Food Day' and Friday is 'Favourites'. The new menu can be found on the school website.



World Book Day 2019!

Everyone at Halley had the most amazing time on Thursday 7th March celebrating 'World Book Day'. It all started with the children and staff arriving at school in their pyjamas; then coming together to enjoy a Big Breakfast Read. It was a very special event with many parents commenting on what a super way it was to start this great day. There were many incredible activities throughout the day that the children were involved in including: storytelling, bookmaking (thanks to Shoshannah's mum!), creating puppets, designing comic strips, painting, drawing, acting out their favourite stories, quizzes, word searches and much much more. Year 6 were fortunate to attend an event with the fabulous poet and children's author Michael Rosen. Rounding off our World Book day with EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 in the hall and their classrooms for bedtime stories and hot chocolate.



CHECK OUT OUR

WORLD BOOK DAY FILM ON THE HALLEY WEBSITE!!!



School Council Raising Funds for Red Nose Day

Halley raised an amazing **£187.53** from the 'Wear Red for Red Nose Day' and a Book Sale which the School Council organised and ran. Children and families had the opportunity to donate and purchase for a small contribution some new second hand books. **Thank you so much for all of your support & donations!** The money raised will be going to a charity that Year 2 will be deciding on linked to their recent topic of Zambia.



STAFF UPDATE



It's goodbye from us...!

We are sad to say goodbye to Sureya Bibi, one of our Nursery teachers. Sureya has worked with many of our children and families for the past six years but excitingly has been offered an exciting new job as a SENCo in another Tower

Hamlets school. All of us at Halley wish her all the best of luck.

We will miss her greatly.

We are also saying farewell to David, who has been supporting both Yr5 and Yr6 since the Autumn term. We thank him for all his hard work and enthusiasm and wish him all the best in his teaching adventures.

We will be welcoming Fateha Begum to our EYFS teaching team, she will be taking on the post of full-time Nursery teacher and has already been working with Bethan and Kathleen; meeting our nursery families and children to ensure a smooth transition. I hope you join in with me, wishing her a warm welcome to Halley Primary School.



RECENT TRIPS AND NEWS



Halley Primary School celebrated British Science Week with a multitude of activities including a visit from Freshwater Theatre Company; trips to the Science Museum and some fantastic scientific investigations in class. A highlight of the week was our **Pop Up Science** events for children and their families which were led by our intrepid scientists from Year 5.

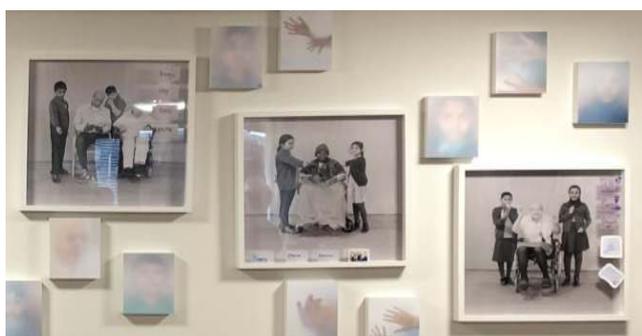


MAGIC ME PROJECT



HALLEY'S ART GALLERY WALKABOUT

Arts & Ages is an ambitious 3 Year intergenerational arts programme nurturing partnerships between Primary Schools and older people in Tower Hamlets that has been supported by the Magic Me charity organisation. At Halley we have been fortunate to be able to take part in this project during the Spring term. Children from Year 4 and 5 have had weekly visits to a local residential home Coopers Court to work with 2 artists and residents. The project accumulated in a Presentation at Coopers Court last week. Where the children and residents shared their creative Activities. Yaqub in Year 4 said "**how it was the first time he had worked with old people before and how he made a new friend Tony**". Tony then expressed similar sense of enjoyment about working with the younger people and how "**it had become the highlight of the week**". *The work has now taken centre stage as part of end of term Art Gallery Walkabout.*



Strings at Halley



On Wednesday 13th March, our Yr5 Teaching Assistant, David, had "*the immense honour and pleasure*" of accompanying the "Strings of Halley" to a rehearsal at the Rich Mix Arts Centre in Bethnal Green. The 6 girls were divided into 2 different groups, taking part in a string band of 15 and a full size orchestra with brass, woodwinds, percussion and of course, strings. The orchestra was made up of about 50 young musicians from all over Tower Hamlets. David was able to eavesdrop on both orchestras and he said "*they just got better and better and sounded amazing!*" They are working extremely hard in preparation for the up and coming concert, which will be taking place in June. Watch this space, for confirmation of the date as you don't want to miss it!

Congratulations to the "Strings of Halley" keep up the good harmonious work!

Year 4 Design Earthquake Resistant Buildings!

Year 4's topic this year has been earthquakes. They began by looking at other examples of earthquake resistant buildings around the world and the features that they used. After that, the children designed their own earthquake resistant buildings and explained what made them strong. To test the strength of their design, the children made earthquake resistant buildings using marshmallows and paper sticks. We then tested them using a cooking tray filled with Jelly and two children either side shaking the tray to recreate an earthquake.



The winning design went to Amira, Ummayyah and Mysha.

NEWS

UP TO 30 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE FOR WORKING PARENTS

The government's childcare programme allows working parents of 3 & 4 year olds to receive a total of 1,120 hours of free childcare per year. To check if you are eligible or for more info you can pick up this leaflet from the offices or you can visit



www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/earlylearning

Halley Spring Term Family Holiday Trip

Monday 15th April
Family Trip to Holland Park



PRIZE DRAW – FREE TRAVEL

If you are keen to come, please sign up at the School Office, if you have any questions please speak with Nilufa



Family Learning Maths

Develop your own skills to help your children with their maths

This is a 10 week course which is aimed at parents and carers of children from Year 3 - 6 (KS2).

You will learn about how maths is currently taught in school. If you feel your own skills are a bit rusty, you will have plenty of opportunity to improve in a supportive environment.

Start Date: **Thursday 25th April**

Time: **9:15am**

Place: **Halley School -Workshop**

Speak to Nilufa for more information



www.ideastore.co.uk

SPORTS NEWS!



Yaqub in Year 4 plays hockey with the Tower Hamlets Hockey club. This half term Yacqub's team was involved in an out of school tournament recently. Yaqub's team came second overall in the under 12's. **Well done Yaqub!**

Summer School Uniform

One of the things I love about Halley is our School colours: red, green and blue (I have snuck in a bit of yellow here and there), I feel this fosters a feeling of belonging to our School community.

Shoshannah

As summer approaches and temperatures rise, we can now start to reduce layers, no vests, short socks instead of tights. Boys and girls are both welcome to wear shorts and girls are welcome to wear cotton gingham uniform dress which can be red, blue or green. Hats are also very encouraged. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



Sport's Day News - Monday 20th May

We would like children this year to wear a T-shirt of their team colours. This will be either red, green, yellow, blue, black or white.

Watch this space for further news...

FAMILY HOMEWORK



Every school holiday, families across the Stepney Partnership enjoy participating in 'Family Homework'. Children, siblings and parents/carers learn together and have fun! This Easter holiday the homework invites you to learn all about Spring. When you come back to school, you can share your learning with your teacher and your class.



Every Thursdays from

2:00pm-3:15pm